THE TIMES

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THE TIMES
1785-1985

Tomorrow

Ten years after
Paul Johnson assesses the effects of America's Vietnam defeat

A hundred years on
On the centenary of the car, motoring into the future

Home-grown vintage
An expert tasting of the wines of England

Rugby special
Preview of Wales v England at the Arms Park, Cardiff

Portfolio

There is £4,000 to be won in The Times Portfolio competition today – the daily £2,000 prize is doubled, because no one won yesterday.
The prize money shoots up to £22,000 tomorrow; £20,000 is to be won in the weekly competition, to which is added the usual daily £2,000. Portfolio list, page 24; how to play, information service, back page.

Russians expelled for spying

The Government's decision to expel two Russians for spying has provoked an angry response from the Soviet Embassy and could lead to retaliationary action by Moscow. The move comes at the time when relations between the two countries have been showing signs of improvement

Back page

Royal tour

The Prince and Princess of Wales leave today on a grand tour of Italy. In an exclusive interview with Peter Nichols, Prince Charles points out that they are following a Royal Family tradition

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Post dispute

Postal deliveries face wider disruption after a four-day strike by postal workers in Northamptonshire over the delivery of election poll cards spread to neighbouring counties yesterday.

Cannes film

Britain has selected just one film, *Insignificance*, to show at next month's Cannes Film Festival during the British Film Year Campaign.

S Africa row

Australia pledged support for mandatory sanctions as the row over sporting contacts with South Africa provoked denunciations of "blood money" and "dishonour" in Canberra and Wellington. Pages 7, 28

Flight of fancy

In a telephone call to Senator Jake Gary on board Discovery, President Reagan said: "Maybe in four years or so you could ... get a certain retired politician a ride on the shuttle"

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Shot in back

Seventeen of the 20 people killed by police near Vitenhage last month were shot in the back, it is officially admitted

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THE TIMES SPECIAL REPORT

London's docklands, once dowdy and derelict, are suddenly the place to be for the go-ahead business. A six-page Special Report looks at the transformation Pages 15-20

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Leading articles: A fighter aircraft for Europe; Employment Institute; President Reagan in Germany
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Bernard Levin on age-old public mysteries; civil rights for all; Britain's other special relationship, by David Watt.
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State cash crisis feared after revised forecasts

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

Public spending programmes for next year are running £800 million over their targets even before the stat of the summer round of attles between spending ministers and the Treasury, purely as a result of changes in officials economic forecatst.

Higher inflation forecasts and other revised assumptions have removed almost all room for manoeuvre in these negotiations.

This is the background against which Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Secretary, will be presenting the results of his social security reviews to the Cabinet nest week, in a presentation complete with a "slide show" of benefits and costs. Although Mr Fowler is anxious to present the reviews as a package reforms rather than a cost-cutting exercise, it is hoped to extract some savings from the results as early as 1986-87.

Abolition of the state earnings-related pension scheme, to be considered b the Cabinet at the same time, would yield savings only in the much longer term.

The public spending revisions threaten to make the new public spending round as difficult as struggle between the Treasury and the spending departments last year.

Immediately at issue is the size of the "contingency reserve", which the Chancellor raised in the Budget to £5 billion for this year and £6 billion for 1986-87, in order to reassure the City that he can keep within his planning totals after last year's failure.

Officials figures, released yesteray, showed that total public borrowing in 1984-85 was £10.1 billion. Although this was shightly less than the Chancellor's Budget-time estimate of £10.5 billion, it was nearly £3 billion more than the target he set last spring.

By July, the Chancellor has to fix the final contingency reserve for 1986-87. If he decides to maintain the same margin for error as he has this year, he can reduce the reserve by only £1 billion. Since £800 million has already been used up by the Treasury's gloomier estimates of the impact of economic changes – notably inflation – on public spending, this means it would begin the battle with spending ministers with a mere £200 million in hand.

Some spemding departments, which put their bids early in June, will certainly be able to make a case for increases in their programmes, which will therefore mean cuts in others.

The inflation forecasts make their greatest impact on the social security budget, as would any further rise in the level of unemployment. In January, the social security programme for 1986-87 was estimated to cost £41.9 billion, about 30 per cent of total programme spending of £132.7 billion plus the £6 billion contingecy reserve.

This estimate, however, was based on the assumption that inflation would average only 4 per cent in that year while, even by the time of the Budget, this forecast had been revised up to 4 ½ per cemt – enough to add an immediate £200 million to the annual bill.

The January plans also assumed that unemployment would stabilize at about 3 million adults in Great Britain. However, the jobless total is already at this level and still rising – while the government's new cyclical indicators, published yesterday, suggest a slowdown in economic growth sometime next year. Every increase of 100,000 in unemployment adds £200 million to the social security bill.

Even before these new revisions, the social security bill was forecast to rise by 25 per cent between 1983-84 and 1987-88

Hence the Prime Minister's desire to conclude a package of reforms that would yield cost savings for several years ahead, taking some of the pressure off the annual spending rounds that have caused so much political controversy.

The other main point of pressure concerns local authority spending. Capital spending is already expected to run ahead of central government's targets for local authorities this year, despite its controvesial controls on capital and current spending next year, local authority expenditure is bound to overshoot the targets set for 1986-87.



Mr George Wright, at yesterday's talks (Photograph: Warren Harrison)

TGWU to meet on re-run of poll

By David Felton
Labour Correspondent

The Transport and General Workers' Union is also hold a special meeting of its executive next month to decide whether to call a new ballot for the post of general secretary after union leaders were given a list of fresh allegations about the conduct of last year's election by Mr George Wright, the defeated candidate.

Mr Wright, the union's Welsh regional secretary, presented the series of alleged irregularities during a four-hour meeting in London yesterday with senior union officials. He said as he left Transport House that it was "an open question at the present time", whether there would be a re-run of the election, which he lost to Mr Ron Todd by just under 45,000 votes.

Mr Moss Evans, the union's outgoing general secretary, said he had ordered regional investigations of Mr Wright's allegations, which were to be completed by April 29. The executive will meet on May 9 to hear reports of the internal investigations.

Mr Evans also announced that the union would be supporting legal action against the BBC 2 television programme *Newsnight*. Mr Vincent Hanna, a reporter on the programme, and Mr Keith Harper, labour editor of *The Guardian*, over publication of allegations made by a former official of the union against Mr Sidney Staden, secretary of the London and South-east region, the union's largest.

Mr Evans said that in order to have a speedy investigation of those "most serious" allegations the union had asked Mr John Garnet, director of the independent Industrial Society to examine election returns which are being held at the Region's headquarters in North London.

There was a strong feeling at Transport House last night among several officials that a re-run of the ballot, in which Mr Wright would start as favourite, is now very likely.

● The House of Commons is to debate trade union ballots next Tuesday, Mr John Biffen, leader of the House, told MPs yesterday (the Press Association reports).

S Africa restores Namibia powers

From Gerald Shaw
Cape Town

The South African Government has decided to return legislative powers and executive authority to Namibia, but insists that this is meant to help, not hinder, the attainment of internationally acceptable independence for the territory.

The territory was to have achieved independence in 1978 under a United Nations plan which has still to be put into operation.

The new arrangement, announced in Parliament yesterday by President Botha, will restore a legislative assembly to Windhoek. The last one was disbanded in January 1983 and the territory has since been governed by a South African-appointed administrator-general.

"South Africa will continue to negotiate with the United Nations and the international community on achieving internationally-recognized independente for South West Africa", Mr Botha said.

"It will continue to be consulted with and be guided by the leaders of South West Africa and will try to involve them in discussions with the international community."

South Africa also undertook not to jeopardize the 1978 independence plan such as by holding another internal election in Namibia.

"For as long as there is a possibility that the present international negotiations hold any realistic prospects of bringing about the genuine withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola, the South African government will not act in a manner irreconcilable with the international settlement plan."

At a press conference, Mr Botha also said there would have to be elections in terms of the new arrangement, but saw this as different from a national election which he had earlier told parliament would complicate current efforts to acheive internationally-acceptable independence.

● **MOSCOW:** The general secretary of Swapo, Mr Andimba Toivo Ja Toivo, vowed to continue the struggle for independence and accused South Africa of carrying out terror and repression in the territory (Reuter reports).

Dollar falls as debtor nations appeal to finance ministers

From Bailey Morris and David Smith, Washington

The dollar plunged sharply yesterday as world finance ministers met in Washington to debate international monetary reform and consider apeals from debtor nations for interest rate relief on their combined debt estimated at more than $400 billion (£310 billion).

Yesterday's dollar fall came after new figures showing a sharp slowdown in US growth. The dollar tumbld below DM3 against the mark, touching DM2.9725 at one stage before edging higher to DM2.9840 by midday in New York.

Its weakness helped the pound which closed up 1.23 cents in London at $1.2885 and up 0.2 at 79.6 on the sterling index. It moved ahead again in New York trading to $1.2915.

Ministers attending the joint meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank said the progress made would largely determine what happens at the Bonn economic summit of world leaders next month.

The bie industrialized nations have so far reacted coolly to the proposals of debtor nations, led by Mexico, for a cap on interest rates, new interest rate facilities and greater flows of funds to poor countries in the form of increased resources (special drawing rights) for the IMF.

The firm pound and a lower-than-expected public sector borrowing requirement fuelled speculation yesterday of an early cut in base rates. Markets expect National Westminster and Lloyds to reduce their rates by at least half a per cent to 12.5 per cent, undercutting the two other big banks with a 12.75 per cent base rate.

Debtor nations, citing continuing high interest rates and the deteriorating condition of many economies, particularly in sub-Sahara Africa, have appealed to the industrialized nations for greater help.

Ministers from developing countries gave a warning at a special session of debt yesterday that the economic gains made over the past two years could be wiped out by the slowdown in world growth and growingprotectionism in rich nations, such as the United States.

Mr A W "Tom" Clausen, President of the World Bank, told the development Committee yesterday that the need for action on the crisis in sub-Saharan Africa was urgent. "A more coordinated, long-term approach to aid, debt rescheduling, and policy reform is urgently required," he said.

Mr Nigel Lawon, the Chancellor, said that a World Bank proposal supported by Britain for a new agency to promote private investment flows to developing countries was making headway and could be completed at the annual meeting of the bank and the IMF in Seoul, South Korea in October.

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Market report, page 23

Thatcher in clash over job outlook optimism

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister and Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, clashed last night over the employment outlook after Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, issued a statement predicting a fall in unemployment before the end of the Parliament.

Cabinet ministers have been ultra-cautious in making forecasts since the election, but Mr Biffen based his optimistic forecast on the rising number of those in employment which, he said in a letter to Shropshire constituents, would "in time" overtake the increasing workforce. "That will be the most decisive moment during this Parliament," he said.

Mrs Thatcher indicated similar confidence – without the conclusion – in the Comons when she said that the solution to unemployment "is the creation of more genuine jobs."

The Prime Minister said: "Since March 1983, some 613,000 more jobs have been created ... The United Kingdom is the only major European country in which employment is currently increasing."

But Mr Hattersley denounced the employment increase as "pretty bogus" and ripped into the Prime Minister's calculations of "genuine" employment.

He said that of the 613,000 increase in employment up to the end of last year – 386,000 were part-time employed, 349,000 was an estimated increase in self-employed, based on a "statistically disreputable" formula; 6,000 were full-time employed women; but

Continued on back page, col 3



Biffen: Predicted fall in jobless

Rowntree trusts give jobs board £100,000

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

The new all-party Employment Institute created to promote alternative policies to tackle unemployment has received £100,000 in grants to help it get off the ground, it was disclosed last night.

All of the money comes from the three Rowntree trusts, £50,000 in total from the memorial and charitable trusts, and £50,000 from the social services trust.

The division of the money, which represents one of the largest ever grants made by the trusts, will enable the funds to be spent on the institute's twin aims of research and promotion. The former sum will be spent on research, which is considered a charitable purpose by the law, and that from the social services trust, because it is tax-paying and non-charitable, can be spent on the promotion and propagandizing of the fruits of the research.

Lord Chitnis, chief executive of the social services trust, said last night: "We have decided to give them enough money to get going. We have encouraged them to look for funds elsewhere as well. If this is a serious attempt to do something about unemployment it will cost more than £100,000."

He said: "This is a large grant for the trust to make. We would not have put money into it if we did not feel it was worthwhile and ought to be given as much help as we can muster," he said.

The disclosure in *The Times* yesterday of the alliance's existence caused a considerable stir, not least in the new organization whose leaders met to consider, and then to reject on the grounds of practicability, bringing forward its formal launch to today.

Reactions to the new initiative ranged from vitriolic opposition from a few right-wing Conservative MPs who saw in it a secret plot against Mrs Thatcher, to strong support from the Alliance leaders.

While government sources were as expected broadly dismissive, some ministers and Conservative MPs accept that the new body could cause considerable embarrassment for the Government unless it is

Continued on back page, col 5

Israel anger over Bitburg

Israeli leaders yesterday paid tribute to the estimated six million Jews killed in the Nazi Holocaust and strongly condemned President Reagan's planned visit to a West German military cemetery.

Newspapers in Israel used the annual Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day to assail Mr Reagan's decision to visit the Bitburg cemetery, where SS soldiers are buried.

Nazi hunter, Mr Simon Wiesenthal, accused the White House of bungling plans for Mr Reagan's visit to West Germany by prevaricating over whether he should visit a Nazi death camp site.

Meanwhile, Mr George Shultz, US Secretary of State, said Nazis guilty of atrocities against Jews during World War II would be brought to justice "no matter how long it takes."

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Magi sold for record £8.1 million

By Geraldine Norman
Saleroom Correspondent

Lord Northampton's Mantegna was sold to the J. Paul Getty Museum of Malibu, California, at Christie's last night for £8.1 million, the highest price ever paid for a painting at auction. The small, but luminous painting on Linen of "The Adoration of the Magi" was one of the most inportant Italian Renaissance paintings left in private hands.

Straight after the sale, however, Mr Tim Clifford, Director of the National Gallery of Scotland, announced that he would be opposing the export of the picture on behalf of his museum. He hopes that the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art will put a six months' stop on the issue of a licence when they next meet. He would then immediately launch a public appeal.

Continued on back page, col 1

MPs' report clears Special Branch

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The Special Branch will be exoncrated from all criticism of its undercover activities in an important Commons report due to be published next month.

After a controversial five-month inquiry, the home affairs select committee is expected to conclude that the 43 Special Branches, in England and Wales do not justify public anxiety.

The report, which like the investigation split the Conservative-dominated committee along party political lines, is bound to attract accusations of being a whitewash, in the light of recent serious allegations.

The select committee says Special Branches, which combat subversion and terrorism and preserve public order, have been in danger of acquiring a sinister reputation with the impression being created that they persecute harmless citizens for political reasons, wrongly assist MI5 and MI6, threaten civil liberties and are not accountable.

But in a ringing declaration of support for their work, the MPs say that Special Branches perform an essential public service and operate within sensible guidelines. The only qualification is the MPs insistence that their conclusions are base on evidence they received, including that from police chiefs.

Labour MPs on the select committee have vigorously opposed the report and Mr David Winnick, MP for Walsall North and chairman of the Tribune group of MPs, proposed an alternative version

Mr Winnick's report, which was defeated by Conservative MPs, concluded that political surveillance is carried out by the Special Branches, often at the request of intelligence services, against people with no wish to undermine or destroy parliamentary democracy.

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BRITISH LIMBLESS EX-SERVICE MEN'S ASSOCIATION

Costly list of obscure GLC groups amazes Tories

By Colin Hughes

Conservative councillors at the Greater London Council were amused yesterday to see that the Labour leadership has spent several thousand pounds on national newspaper advertising listing obscure organizations which survive on its grants.

The advertisements named 168 organizations which the GLC says are "just some of the organizations which may disappear" if the council is abolished next year.

About one-third of the organizations sponsor ethnic minority activities, homosexal support groups, and women's campaingns and groups.

Better known organiztions, will be surprised to find themselves listed as among those who "believe that they are in jeopardy" over threatened abolition and loss of GLC grants.

Mr Ken Livingstone, the GLC leader, and the Labour group see the grant-giving as a fulcrum of their community politics. Groups whose existence depends on GLC funding are deemed more likely to view the GLC funding are deemed more likely to view the GLC leadership as worthy of support.

Me Alan Greengross, the Conservative leader, said he found the list "incomprehensible, although the motive behind publication is clearly political, and not charitable". Many of the organizations were "laudable in their objectives", but the majority were of a "questionable nature".

Since he believed that many readers of the advertisement would view the groups' disappearance as one of the benefits of abolition, he could not see why the GLC was keen to parade it.

"In view of the hostility aroused by the GLC patronage of these strange bodies, one can only wonder how the Labour Party imagines this advertisement furthers their campaign."

Among those organizations who will have been surprised to read of their expected demise are: the British Judo Association, the Association of Community Health Councils, the Child Poverty Action Group, the National Council for Civil Liverties, MIND, the Royal Town Planning Institute, the Town and Country Planning Association, the Save the Children Fund, the Family Planning Association, Friends fo the Earth, and Mencap.

Among the less well-known organizations which Mr Greengross refers to are (listed with 1984-85 grant in brackets): Black Female Prisoners Scheme (£7,074); Pakistan Welfare Society (£3,200); Welsh Harp Conservation Group (£20,000); Black Productions for African National Congress (£200,000 guarantee); Lesbian Feminist Writers Conference Planning Group (£321); London Gay Teenage Group Research and Counselling (£16,425 for salaries); Lesbian Line Coimselling Service (£22,295 for special needs group).

Women and the Law, Video Collective (£14,028 for videos for schools); MATRIX, Women's Architect's Co-operative (£24,846 and £5,882); WEFT, Women's Resource Project (£26,699); Gay Men's Press (£15,750); Irish in Britain Representation Group (four grants totalling more than £30,000); Commission of Phillipino Migrant Workers (£800);

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Scheme for inner-city aid is condemned as a cosmetic measure

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Five ministers presided yesterday over the glossy launch of the Government's latest effort to revitalize the most deprived urban areas in England. The unusually lavish presentation showed that the Government is determined to commit much more effort, but as yet no more money, into inner-city aid schemes.

Ministers are spending two days visiting the areas they have chosen for the new "city action teams" which are meant to bring more publicity and more coherence to government efforts in urban areas.

There were noisy scenes in the Commons later when the Prime Minister defended the initiative against the derision of Labour and Liberal MPs. Mr Simon Hughes, Liberal MP for Southwark and Bermondsey, said that the new teams were "a con-trick", being set up without a penny of extra money. Mrs Margaret Thatcher replied that spending on essential services had risen under the Conservatives.

"If you want more, what would you take it away from?" she asked. Later Mr John Cunningham, Labour's chief parliamentary spokesman on the environment, said that the creation of teams was a cosmetic exercise which did not compensate for the withdrawal of housng subsidies and rate-support grant.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said at a press conference earlier that the initiative was not meant to provide replacements for the seven large councils which are to be abolished next year. It was also unconnected with the defiance of rate-capping by some inner-city councils.

"This is not an aspect of centralization", Mr Jenkin said. There was no question of the Government's issuing urgan aid with one hand and withdrawing it, through spending penalties, with the other. Some of the areas to be covered by the new action teams are administered by Labour-led councils facing the toughest government sanctions against high spending.

"There is no inconsistency with this at all", Mr Jenkin said. "The fact that a city is high on the deprivation index, which is justification for the many millions of punds which are going into the urban programme, cannot be a justification for running their own services extravagantly".

The index is based on the official census and is treated as an offficial yardstick off deprivation. Hackney, in east London, is top of the list.

The areas which qualify for aid under the urban programme as well as Hackney and Gateshead are Liverpool, Birmingham, Manchester and Salford, Newcastle upon Tyne and the London boroughs of Islington and Lambeth.



Mr Larry Rolland, president-elect of the RIBA and Mr Michael Manser, current president, in Meard Street, Soho, London, with buildings to be restored in the background (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Boosts for blighted areas

By Charles Knevitt, Architecture Correspondent

Three initiatives were launched yesterday to regenerate the inner cities.

The Royal Institute of British Architects, frustrated in its attempts to persuade the Government to spend more on the country's building announced its "Decaying Britain" campaign aimed directly at the public and key decision-makers.

Mr Michael Manser, its president, accused the Government of creating "a revenue time bomb" in neglecting essential repair and maintenance work on houses, schools, hospitals and other public buildings. Building was labour-intensive and used locally produced materials.

"If current policies are persued they will irrevocably damage the built environment upon which every enterprise in this nation depends", he added.

"We will become a dilapidated second-rate annexe to Europe and, worse, we will be divided between those who are adequately housed and those who are not, those who work in adequate, efficient premises and those who do not, and those who lead civilized and fruitful lives and those who do not."

Chief architects in local and health authorities will be recording neglect of local buildings so that a central dossier can be compiled and ministers confronted with the evidence.

Mr Manser welcomed the Goverment's decision to launch City Action Teams (CATs) in five inner cities, announced yesterday. But he was disappointed there would be no extra funds.

A second RIBA initiative was also announced, the formation of the President's Urban Assistance Group, whose members include Sir Denys Lasdun, Sir Hugh Casson and Mr Richard Rogers, this year's Royal Gold Medallist for Architecture.

Mr Rod Hackney, a member of the group, said it would be aiming to raise £2 million over the next two years from the financial institutions, to set up community architecture offices. He hoped the Department of the Environment would match the amount raised.

A small annual grant from the department has been used to set up 123 inner city schemes, drawing in millions of pounds' of investment, since 1982.

Mr Hackney said an office costing £20,000 to set up could generate £200,000 of activity.

The institute hopes to establish a national architectural service, similar to the National Health Service and legal aid, but with architects living and working in the communities they serve.

Britain 'faces new slum era'

Britain could be faced with "a new generation of slums" by the turn of the century "with all the human misery and degradation that implies", Lord Scarman said yesterday.

Speaking at the launch in London of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless – a United Nations project to improve housing conditions in all countries by the end of 1987 – Lord Scarman cited "a new generation of young people looking for homes, a deteriorating housing stock and a low level of rebuilding, improvement and new building" as reasons for his prediction.

"My general inquiries into the problems of the inner city, when I was looking into the particular nature of the Brixton disorders in 1981, convinced me that in the inner city areas of the UK we have to act urgently to tackle the basic needs of human beings for shelter and for housing", Lord Scarman, who is president of the national council for the UN year, said.

Britain classified 78,000 houlseholds as "officially" homeless, he said, a figure that excluded most single people and childless couples.

About 100,000 families lived in what was meant to be temporary bed and breakfast accommodation; hundreds of thousands were overcrowded, and four million lived in homes that were substandard or unsatisfactory.

Sogat tries to cut off Hungarian aid to Shah

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, Britain's biggest print union, is taking international steps to persuade the Hungarian banks to withdraw financial support from Mr Eddie Shah's proposed new national newspaper.

Sogat '82 leaders have approached the state-run Hungarian paper and printing union expressing "alarm and extreme concern" that Hungarian banks are leading a £6.2 million consortium set up to finance a newspaper to be produced and distributed "by non-union labour".

In a letter to Mr Janos Lux, head of the Hungarian union, Ms Brenda Dean, general secretary of Sogat 82, asks: "I would press you to bring our concern to the attention of the Central Committee of Trade Unions in Hungary and to your Government and ask that the support which is reported as being given to Mr Shah be withdrawn".

She reminded the Hungarians that Mr Shah used the Goverment's "anti-union legislation" against the National Graphical Associationl during the 1983-84 *Messenger Group* dispute in Warrington, triggering a long conflict that led to the TUC itself being threatened with contempt of court if they gave support to the NGA.

"This employer, Mr Shah, has now said it is his intention to produce a daily newspaper of approximately 1,700,000 circulation-a-day from three cities in Britain.

"He has made no contact with Sogat, whose members' work in the administration, production and distribution of national and regional newspapers and nor has he, I understand, approached the other unions in the newspaper industry – the NGA, the NUJ, the engineers and the electricians.

"The intention has been clearly put across that the paper will be produced and distributed by non-union labour. We are always prepared to talk to any employer about recognition of our union and recruitment from amongst our membership

"However, Mr Shah has made no attempts to discuss this with us and his public pronouncements can lead us to no other conclusion than his intention being to have his proposed paper as non-union.

"Currently we are going through a period of much change in newspapers, both national and regional, due to new technology. Many of our members are unemployed and we have good reason to believe many more will be made unemployed.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Employment, has responded in deliberately relaxed fashion to the disclosure of the new Employment Institute that is to promote alternative policies on unemployment. That is wise. Had ministers become agitated they would simply have maximised whatever political threat there might be.

But how much of a political threat to the Government does this initiative represent? Attention has naturally focused on the range of support that the institute has attracted, extending from Mr Michael Meacher on the Labour left to Sir Ian Gilmour, Mr Francis Pym and Mr James Prior on the Conservative left. But it would be quite mistaken to imagine that this presages some realignment of forces at Westminster.

It would be easy to exaggerate the party political element in the whole operation at this stage. Of the leading Conservative politicians involved, only Sir Ian Gilmour seems to be playing an active role. Mr Prior and Mr Pym have simply given the weight of their names to an undertaking which they believe to be desirable in principle

Since he left the Goverament Mr Prior has been particularly careful not to try to make life difficult for his former colleagues. There is no indication that he is changing that approach. If he felt that the institute was going off the rails, he would either become more active and fight his corner or resign.

Conservatives see it as useful research...

It is perhaps not surprising that while the creation of the institute has secured wide support, going far beyond political circles, it is backed for rather different reasons by different people. Conservative politicians, whether ministers or supporters of the project, see it as a useful research exercise which might provide helpful proposals for dealing with the country's greatest social and economic problem.

That is certainly how the operation is seen by Professor Richard Layard and Sir Richard O'Brien. They may not agree with the Government's policy on unemployment, but they have not embarked on the mobilisation of an anti-Thatcher movement.

Others are not so non-partisan in their approach. It would be disengenuous to suppose that opposition politicians engaged in an exercise of this sort are oblivious to the opportunites are will depend to some extent on how the operation itself develops.

There is both a research and a campaigning element. The two have to be distinguished legally because charitable trusts cannot give their money to any activity that could be interpreted as politically partisan, and the initial finance has come from the Rowntree Trusts, two of which have charitable status. Between them the Rowntree Trusts have given a starting grant of £100,000.

... but it will not be dispassionate

But while the institute will be engaged in research, it will not be dispassionate research. It will be conducted in the belief that there are more constructive policies available for coping with unemployment than the Government has yet applied. The purpose will be not just to work out an alternative strategy in clinical style, but to propagate it as vigorously as possible.

The research and campaigning functions are therefore bound to become intertwined to some extent. But which will predominate? The total effect will be very different according to whether the emphasis is on developing new ideas, which might even be helpful to the Government, or on mobilising public opinion in favour of a more expansionist budgetary and monetary strategy than the Chancellor would be prepared to accept. Ministers would not smile benevolently on an institute for U-turns.

There is always the possibility that the operation might be hijacked by an opposition party, which might want to appropriate the institute's policies for its own. Already there is thought to be a noticeable SDP aura about the exercise.

But the greater danger to the Government would seem to be that it might help to create an impression that most informed and sensible people believed that there was a constructive alternative strategy for unemployment which only ministerial obtuseness prevented being applied. The Government owes a great deal to the belief that there really is no easy answer.

Teachers to intensify pay strikes

Strikes will be intensified by teachers next week in support of their pay claim, but the action will not affect pupils studying for examinations, the National Union of Teachers says.

This is in line with a resolution taken at the NUT's annual conference at Easter that no strike should affect the preparation of pupils for public examinations taking place this term.

Teachers with responsibility for examination classes will interrupt their strike action to teach examination pupils and will supervise examinations.

Apart from that concession, it was agreed at the conference that the range of strike sanctions should be extended to include recurring half-day and one-day strikes in addition to the three-day strikes taken in the spring term.

The NUT has also said that some schools will be involved in three-day strikes in successive weeks. That will mean a two-day working week for those schools for an indefinite period.

School-based ballots for selective strikes are being conducted in the following local education authorities this week: Gateshead, Bury, Trafford, Sefton, Wirral, North Yorkshire, Humberside, Sheffield, Doncaster, Barnsley, Calderdale, Bradford, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, Birmingham, Solihull, Sandwell, Coventry, Wolverhampton, Dudley, Walsall, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Hereford and Worcester, Shropshire, Essex, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Hampshire, East Sussex, West Sussex, Surrey, Kent, Dorset, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Clwyd, West Glamorgan, Mid Glamorgan, South Glamorgan, Gwent, Inner London Education Authority, London boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Merton.

Backbench clash likely if pension plan is scrapped

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Government looks poised to face strong opposition from its own backbenchers if it goes ahead with plans to abolish the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme, introduced with all-party support in 1978.

Abolishing the scheme, which will provide about ten million people with a pension based on their best 20 years' earnings by the end of the century, is known to be one option put forward by Mr Norman Fowler's social security reviews due to be published next month.

But there are reports that the Government is prepared to face the political storm that would follow a decision to break the all-party consensus and abolish the scheme, encouraging people to make private provision for retirement or rely on occupational pension schemes.

The state's contribution would be limited to providing the basic state pension, without an earnings-related component.

Mr Robert McCrindle, Conservative MP for Brentwood and Ongar, and one of the party's pension experts, said abolishing the scheme carried the risk that the very people least likely to make private provision for retirement, for example manual workers, would retire on nothing but the basic state pension.

They would then be pushed back on to supplementary benefit, with spending on that rising sharply.

Ministers are worried that the scheme could add £20billion to public spending when it has matured in the next century, and that rising numbers of elederly and smaller numbers in the workforce could mean 20 per cent of people's earnings going to pay for the scheme.

But Mr McCrindle said he was "sceptical" about the figures, and he would want to see them spelt out in great detail "before I support any move to wind up SERPS".

Mr Mechael Meacher, Labour's chief social services spokesman, was refused an emergency debate yesterday on reports that the scheme is to be scrapped.

'Trial by combat' request

An ancient legal right of trial by combat could be revived in the Supreme Court in Scotland next week.

Two men due to stand trial at the High Court in Edinburgh on Monday on robbery and firearms charges have instructed their lawyers that they want to exercise the right they believe they still have under Scots law to trial by combat rather than trial by jury. John and Paul Burnside, both in custody, face serious charges including a post office robbery and are due to appear before Lord Cowie.

Trial by combat, introduced by the Normans in the eleventh century was abolished in England in 1819, but in Scots law the right technically survives.

In 1818 in England a court decided that a man was entitled to trial by battle in an action raised against him. But later proceedings were dropped.

Supreme Court officials think that if Lord Cowie upheld the right to "trial by combat", the role of the Queen's champion in Scotland would be taken by the Lord Advocate, Lord Cameron of Lochbroom.

Papers 'clear princess's father'

By Alan Hamilton

Documents which, it is claimed, will exonerate the father of Princess Michael of Kent from his wartime association with Hitler's SS, had arrived in London and would be released after translation, Buckingham Palace said yesterday.

The documents were sent by members of Princess Michael's family in Australia, and are understood to show that an Allied De-Nazification court at the end of the war cleared the name of Baron Gunther von Riebnitz, who was a member of the SS from 1934 until 1944, when he was expelled and sent to the Eastern Front, for reasserting his Roman Catholic faith.

After disclosures of her father's past in the *Daily Mirror*, the Princess said in a television interview on Wednesday that she could produce evidence to show that her father's position in Hitler's notorious force was purely honorary.

Letters, page 13

Protest to Treasury on airports sell-off threat

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The British Airports Authority, one of the Government's prime targets for privatization, has made the strongest possible protest against a Treasury threat to force the sale of viable parts of the industry, which has assets valued at about £1,000 million.

Sir Norman Payne, chairman of the authority has told the Commons Select Committee on Transport that the implications of the powers are immense. "It is likely that the main candidates for disposals would be assets which earn an above-average rate of return and are concession or terminal-related.

"If the sale of these high-yielding assets necessitated landing fees to be increased, then international reaction from other governments and airlines can be expected".

Last year, the authority made some profits out of Gatwick, Glasgow and Aberdeen, but it made about £50 million from Heathrow and there are fears that the Treasury plans an asset-stripping raid on London's prime airport.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, told the select committee a year ago that he had "virtually" ruled out the break-up and separate sale of London's airport group – Heathrow, Gatwick and the loss-making Stansted.

But he also mentioned the possibility of extending franchise arrangements, the favoured option of Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, for the Royal Dockyards of Rosyth and Devonport.

The airports authority told the committee at the time: "The Government can achieve its privatization aims most quickly and in the most financially beneficial manner if it retains the authority in its present form as a single entity."

It said there would be no competitive advantage from fragmentation

Thatcher wants early reform of rates system

By George Hill, Political Staff

The Prime Minister confirmed in the Commons yesterday that the Government still hoped to legislate on the reform of rates before the next election.

But Mrs Thatcher refrained, significantly, from taking up a hint at Question Time from Mr Timothy Yeo, Conservative MP for Suffolk South, to indicate lack of faith in the rates as such.

Mr Yeo asked if Mrs Thatcher was aware "that abolition of domestic rates would be one of the most popular steps this Government could take and that her proposals to this effect are eagerly awaited by rate-payers all over the country?".

She replied that it would be some time before the results of the Government's review of the system were available, and that public consultations and discussion in Parliament would follow before a Bill was introduced. "I hope they will come out in time for legislation before the next election", she added.

This reply, which confirms a comment made by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, on Wednesday, indicates that the Government may be moving towards a modest scheme, which could be introduced without undue acrimony in the last months of the Administration, and away from outright abolition of the rates, which would be widely popular, though controversial, feature of an election manifesto if selected as an option.

Mrs Thatcher said that she had received about 760 representations, most expressing concern

"I share much of this concern", Mrs Thatcher, said. But though commendable progress had been made on the review, "there is much further work to be done over the next few months and it is not possible at this stage to predict the outcome".

Miners agree pay deal, but bank staff may strike

By Our Labour Editor

The Government's campaign to hold down wage rises had mixed fortunes yesterday, with the militant miners finally ending their 17-month long pay battle but a fresh strike threat emerging among traditionally-moderate bank workers.

Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers are unanimously recommending to a special delegate conference on Monday that they accept a package of improvements giving basic rate increases of up to 12.5 per cent from June 1. The miners have not had a wage rise since November 1, 1983.

However, leaders of the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union yesterday voted to recommend to their members in a secret postal ballot a programme of industrial action designed to force the "big four" clearing banks to improve on a 5.5 per cent "final offer" to 240,000 High Street bank workers.

The outcome of the poll, which is being conducted in strict accordance with the Trade Union Act, 1984, will be known in mid-May, when BIFU proposes to impose an overtime ban and a series of one-day strikes in selected areas if a majority support the executive recommendation.

Elsewhere in the private sector, Left-wing moves failed to commit the 1.5 million-strong Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers to demanding wage rises of 56 per cent on basic rates. Delegates to the AUEW national committee in Eastbourne voted by 63 to 59 to ask instead for "substantial" increases from the Engineering Employers' Federation.

In the health services, union negotiators rejected a marginally improved 4.455 per cent pay offer to 250,000 hospital ancillary staff as "unsatisfactory." Present rates of pay for these grades range from £68.98 to £92.20. In cash terms, it would amount to £3.35 a week extra. There is no likelihood of industrial action at this stage.

● Ten thousand industrial workers at Devonport dockyard walked out yesterday in protest at Government plans to denationalize the yards. (the Press Association reports).

Workers at the Rosyth dockyard – which is also affected by the scheme, are to disucss a similar walk-out on Monday.



Political double: The Rev Ian Paisley with his daughter Rhonda, a candidate in next month's local elections.

Queen gives oak

The Queen has sent a four-ton, 26ft oak, planted at Sandringham 130 years ago, to help to rebuild the roof of York Minster, devastated by fire last July.

The Times overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 20; Belgium a fra 60; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 70 cents; Denmark Dkr 9.00; Finland Mk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 190; Holland Gl 3.50; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2500; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $6.80; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.50; Switzerland 6 Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 180

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More than third of tested homosexuals 'showed evidence of AIDS virus'

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Over a third of a group of homosexuals attending sexually transmitted disease clinics in London, and almost 40 per cent of haemophilics tested by the Central Public Health Laboratory have evidence of infection with the AIDS virus.

The results suggest that while many individuals with evidence of exposure to AIDS virus remain sympton free "there may soon be a considerable increase in AIDS and related disease in Britain", doctors from the Virus Reference Laboratory at the Central Public Health Laboratory in Colindale report in today's *British Medical Journal*.

AIDS infection has become prevalent in homosexuals throughout the country, the team led by Dr Marguerite Pereira, director of the Virus Reference Laboratory, says, and urgent action is needed to limit its spread among both homosexuals and haemophiliacs.

The survey involved testing for antibody to AIDS virus, the blood of 282 homosexuals whose blood had been sent for hepatitis B testing.

Thirty-four per cent proved positive, as did tests on five per cent of 955 homosexuals outside London.

Among 81 haemophiliacs whose blood was tested last year, 38 per cent proved positive.

The results, Dr Pereira and her colleagues say, show that since 1980 infection with the AIDS virus "has become well established among British homosexuals attending sexually transmitted disease clinics".

Among haemophiliacs, while the infection has taken longer to appear, it is more prevelant than in sexually active homosexuals. Among those who have been regularly treated with imported Factor VIII, the clotting agent, about 50 per cent now have antibody to the AIDS virus.

About three-quarters of the Factor VIII used in Britain is imported from the United States, where AIDS is more common. Because Factor VIII is made up from pools of many thousands of blood donations, a single infected donation can probably contaminate a whole batch, the doctors say.

Britain has now started heat-treating the plasma used to produce British Factor VIII to kill the AIDS virus, but the Department of Health said yesterday the extension being built to the Blood Products Laboratory at Elstree is not expected to make the United Kingdom self-sufficient in Factor VIII until the end of next year.

Dr Pereira and her colleagues said that to limit the spread of the infection, those haemophiliacs without evidence of exposure to AIDS virus must be identified and treated with heat-treated Factor VIII.

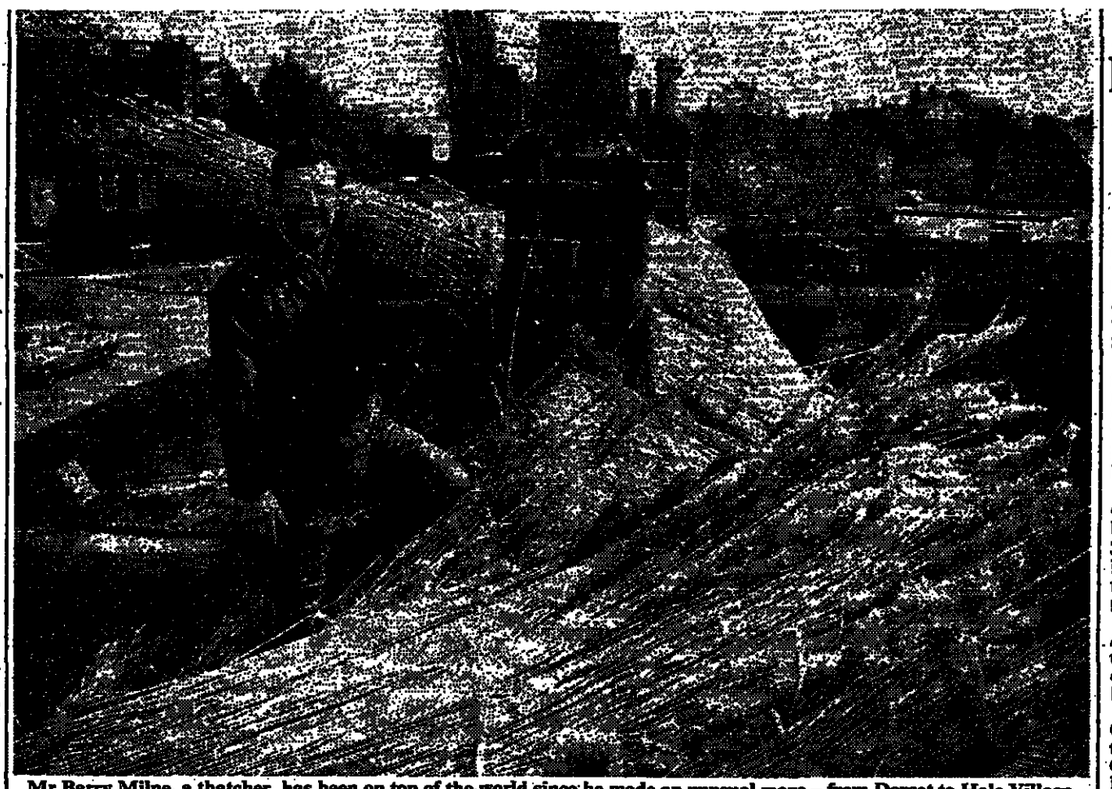
New resources must also be provided to limit the spread of the infection among homosexuals and drug abusers. While it is impossible to pedict how many AIDS cases there will be, the trend, which has produced 140 cases and 61 deaths, is constantly upward, the say, "with no signs of a plateau".

Breast-fed baby infected by virus

Babies may become infected with Aids through breast feeding if their mothers have been exposed to the disease, a group of doctors has claimed (Our Science Correspondent writes).

A baby in Sydney, Australia, probably became infected through breast milk after his mother received a transfusion of blood from a male homosexual, the doctors say in the latest issue of *The Lancet*.

The man who donated the blood developed Aids 13 months later. The mother was given the transfusion after the delivery of the baby by caesarean section, and breast fed the child for six weeks



Mr Barry Milne, a thatcher, has been on top of the world since he made an unusual move – from Dorset to Hale Village, in Merseyside, when business fell. Now he has more work than he can handle.

Mother of handicapped girl loses appeal

A mother who claims that her severely handicapped teenage daughter suffered brain damage when she was vaccinated as a baby faces having to argue her compensation claim for a third time before a Department and Social Security tribunal.

In her seven-year battle for a fixed £10,000 award Mrs Moira Loveday, a teacher, has won High Court orders quashing two Vaccine Damage Tribunal rulings that she had failed to prove her case.

Last November, a judge ordered a third tribunal hearing, but hinted that the Secretary of State for Social Services, Mr Norman Fowler, might think that "enough is enough" and pay the money.

Yesterday, the Court of Appeal rejected argument that the court should order payment of the money and save Mrs Loveday further anguish.

Lord Campbell, of Alloway, QC, had tld the appeal judges that Mrs Loveday, of Vicar's Close, Victoria Park East, Hackney, East London, was legally aided. Her attempts to claim the £10,000 had so far cost between £40,000 and £50,000 in public funds.

Lord Justice Oliver, Lord Justice Dillon and Sir Esward Eveleigh expressed sympathy for Mrs Loveday and her daughter, Susan, aged 14, but dismissed her appeal against the High Court judge's refusal to order payment.

But the court could not interfere in what was essentially a medical matter best left to a tribunal's medical experts.

Later a lawyer for Mrs Loveday said the Department of Health and Social Security felt that, if it were to make an exception in her case and pay, it would be setting an unwanted precedent.

Even if Mrs Loveday now won her case the £10,000 would be worth only £4,000 of its original value, the lawyer said.

She would not get anything in interest or inflation-proofing

Science report, page 14

£2.5m haul of cocaine at Heathrow

By Stewart Tendler

Customs investigators were questioning two Brazilians yesterday after 14 kilograms of cocaine, worth £2.5 million, were seized at Heathrow Airport in the false side of a suitcase.

The suitcase was being brought through the green customs channel in terminal two after a flight from Zurich when officers moved in at the end of an investigation code-named Operation Rattlesnake. The seizure is the largest of cocaine destined only for the British market.

Other larger seizures have been made but the cocaine was always in transit to other countries. The size of the haul this week bears out predictions by experts on both sides of the Atlantic that Britain may face a rapid expansion of cocaine use.

A cocaine investigation team has been formed by customs officers and the operation this week was the result of intelligence work and undercover observations. The seizure compares with a total of 35 kilograms of cocaine found in Britain last year.

Belfast seaman on bomb charge freed

A Belfast seamen held on a bomb plot charge since January walked free from court yesterday.

Mr William Gallagher, aged 47, left the dock at Liverpool Magistrates' Court to a rapturous reception from his family after the Director of Public Prosecutions had ordered that all evidence against him should be withdrawn, and the charge against him dropped.

He was arrested by Special Branch officers at his home in New Lodge Road, Belfast, on January 20 and had been in custody since then.

Mr Gallagher and five others were charged under the Prevention of Terrorism Act with conspiring to cause an explosion in the United Kingdom. Four are still in custody, and Dr Maire O'Shea, from Birmingham, is on bail.

After a tearful reunion with his wife, Mr Gallagher said: "I'm very relieved, I just can't believe it. Now I just want to go home and be with my wife and three children."

Mr Philip Canter, Mr Gallagher's solicitor said that he was considering pressing for a large amount of damages from the police because Mr Gallagher had been detained for such a long time.

● Three men who were wrongfully arrested during the Moss Side riots in Manchester in 1981 have been awarded more than £9,000 damages in total against the police.

After an eight day hearing at Manchester County Court, a jury found that Mr Richard Poyser, of Allerford Close, Moss Side, Mr Melvin Joseph, of Hulme Court, and Mr Paul Grant, of Tissington Walk, Hulme, all in Greater Manchester, had been wrongfully arrested and assaulted.

Mr Poyser was awarded £4,500; Mr Joseph £3,000, and Mr Grant, £1,800, with costs against the police. The men were stopped as they drove through Moss Side in the early hours. Mr Muktah Hussain, counsel for the men, said that they were searched and beaten before being taken to a police station, where they were the victims of further violence by officers.

The men, who suffered cuts and bruises, were later acquitted at Manchester Magistrates' Court of disorderly behaviour. It was claimed by the police that they acted in self defence.

Atom test men 'not protected'

A Penzance inquest was told yesterday that Servicemen who took part in Britain's atom bomb experiments in the 1950s were not issued with adequate protective clothing or equipment.

Mr Kenneth Measures, of Roseliddenpark, Helston, Cornwall, died in December 1983 from a rare lung cancer which spread quickly throughout his body. In 1957 he took part in decontamination duties on board the aircraft carrier HMS Warrior at Malden Island, in the South Pacific.

The inquest was told that his only equipment had been a bucket of water and a scrubbing brush. His widow, Valerie, told the jury that her husband did not smoke and had always been fit and athletic.

Mr Derrick Pepperell, the Coroner, said that there had been three atomic air bursts at Malden Island in May and June 1957. Mrs Measures said her husband had told her the dust cloud remained for three days after each blast.

"Part of his job was to wash down the helicopters which visited the island", she said. He was issued with no protective clothing. He just had a scrubbing brush and a bucket of water.

She said that during the explosion he and the rest of the crew sat on the flight deck with their backs to the blast. They were given goggles and told to put their hands over their faces. When the bombs went off they could see the bones of their fingers through the flesh. She said her husband had described the blasts as "an awesome sight".

Captain Roger Hicks, the retired captain of HMS Warrior, told the jury that some members of the crew were given protective headgear to save them from heat and flash but not radiation.

Dr Brian Lawton, Mr Measures's doctor, who brought the death to the notice of the coroner, said he had never before seen a cancer such as that which killed his patient.

"Most lung cancers are caused by smoking", he said.

The jury is expected to hear expert medical evidence today which could link Mr Measures's cancer directly to the Malden Island tests.

Esso increases profit by 40%

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Esso, which has confused motorists in the past two weeks by first reducing the price of petrol to below £2 a gallon and then leading oil companies in a price rise, announced yesterday an increase in profits of almost 40 per cent.

However, Mr Archie Forster, the company's Chairman and Chief Executive, said that Esso was hovering between the black and the red on petrol sales.

In 1984, Esso's profits were £709 million – a 24.1 per cent return on assets – compared with £311 million in 1983. The dividend payment to Exxon, its US parent, was £930 million (£200 million coming from reserves) calculated that the £2,144 million it paid in taxation and royalties to the Government would have covered the cost of a 2p cut in income tax.

Mr Forster said: "While overall 1984 was a good year with an improved level of return following many years of low profit in relation to the very sizeable investments made, the company continued to face problems in the refining and marketing sectors."

Esso's profits are largely due to its increased output from the North Sea, where it is now producing 16 per cent of the British oil and gas demand and where it plans to spend £750 million a year on new projects between now and 1990, at least 85 per cent with British companies.

While profits on crude oil have increased because of the strong dollar against sterling, Esso uses the same reason for explaining its poor profits on petrol sales in 1984.

It has consistently used the sterling-dollar relationship as the reason for price rises and price cuts at the pumps, and because of its position as market leader, with a marginally higher share than Shell, its prices have been followed by the other companies.

However, Esso now suggests that the latest round of increases – sterling has climbed against the dollar in the past weeks – is due to competitive forces within the market.

Libyan suspected of terror link deported

By our Crime Reporter

A Libyan airline official has been deported from Britain on suspicion of acting as a scout for pro-Gadaffi terrorists planning attacks on Libyan dissident groups in Britain.

The Home Office confirmed yesterday that Mr Muhammad Ali El Ati, aged 42, was deported on Tuesday after being arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act

Mr Ati, an airline traffic officer for the national Libyan airline at Heathrow Airport, had been in Britain since 1980. He was not connected directly to any Libyan attacks in Britain but was uncovered in a Special Branch and anti-terrorist squad operation.

Mr Ati is suspected of collating details of dissident groups in London and other parts of Britain which could then be used for attacks against them.

The evidence against him was not strong enough for a conviction and Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, agreed to his deportation.

Don criticized for cool note on farm funding

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The ability of the Ministry of Agriculture to offer farmers advice on low-cost methods of agriculture inevitably depended upon future government policy decision, Professor Ronald Bell, Director-General of the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service (Adas), told the Commons agricultural committee yesterday

Professor Bell's obvious unwillingness to speculate on future hypothetical situations earned him a mild rebuke from Mr John Spence, the committee chairman. Adas should appreciate that, in drawing up its report, the committee would be seeking to advise the Government on ways in which policies might be changed.

When Adas started its work there had been some 500,000 farmers and the cost of the industry to the taxpayer had been negligible, he said. Since then the number of farmers had halved, incomes in real terms had fallen by two thirds and the burden on the taxpayer had become huge.

Hotel gets satellite TV link

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The first satellite television link to a British hotel has been established. Two antennae mounted on the roof of the Mayfair Hotel, London, are picking up transmissions from a European telecommunication spacecraft.

The service is offered by IVS, a company which hopes to attract other leading British hotels. It costs about 25p a day a room depending on the size of the hotel.

The service offers two channels – TEN (The Entertainment Network) which transmits 50 films a month over nine hours each day, and Screensport, the sports channel.

The antennae – about 1.8 metres in diameter – point towards a telecommunications satellite operated by Intelsat (International Satellite Organization).

The service is the first Satellite Master Antenna Television (SMATV) service in individual premises in Britain.

The service received by the aerials is carried by cable to the rooms. The hotel has been given a temporary operating licence by the Department of Trade and Industry. Only British Telecom, its rival Mercury and licensed cable television operators have the legal right to receive signals from a telecommunications satellite.

A statement is expected from the Government soon about relaxation in controls on the operation of SMATV systems. The services will be offered to hotels, office blocks, residential blocks, schools and hospitals.

● Half of the $90 million insurance cover on the satellite "lost" on the latest Space Shuttle flight will be borne by London underwriters. The $45 million is the second big loss just over a year which has been sustained by the London insurers.

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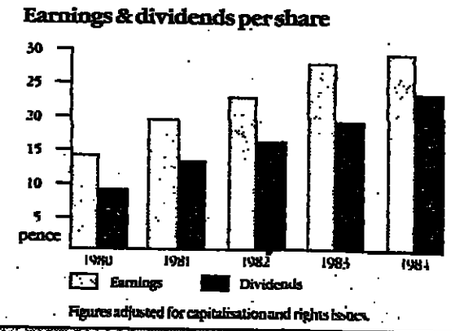
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Beagle stolen in raid on ICI plant, court told

A group of about 100 masked animal rights protesters armed with hammers and iron bars, stormed offices and laboratories at the Alderley Edge pharmaceutical site of ICI and stole documents, files and a beagle dog, it was alleged at Knutsford Crown Court yesterday.

Mr John Rogers, QC, prosecuting, said that as part of the raid telephone lines to the nearest police station had been deliberately blocked by a series of planned telephone calls made to coincide with the time of the siege.

A total of 15 defendants, 12 men and three women, have all pleaded not guilty to taking part in an unlawful assembly and to damaging property. Most of the accused are from Greater Manchester; the rest from Merseyside; Skelmersdale, Lancashire; Exeter, Devon; and London.

Mr Rogers said that the damage caused amounted to £13,000. "What is clear is the whole operation was conceived with care, and thereafter executed with efficiency". The demonstration was against the laboratory use of dogs and other animals by ICI.

About 300 people converged on the site in Cheshire and were given the choice of joining a lawful demonstration outside, or of demonstrating unlawfully by going inside.

He said that three groups were detailed for the operation:

The trial, which is expected to last three weeks, continues today.

Man admits he bought cheap stolen coffins

An undertaker bought 44 coffins which had been stolen from a rival for a bargain price of £10 each, Marylebone Magistrates' Court, London, was told yesterday.

James Shackleton, aged 24, told the police that he knew the coffins were stolen, but the price was "too good to pass up", Sgt Raymond told the court.

Shackleton, of Lancaster West Estate, Notting Hill, admitted dishonestly receiving the coffins and a body shell, worth £1,436 over an eight-month period. He was arrested after police inquiries into the thefts from W. S. Bond, funeral directors.

Shackleton told the court the coffins, which were used for "low-class funerals" were stolen from his rivals. "There is a lot of rivalry in the funeral business", he said.

He was bailed until May 17 for probation reports after he said he was out of work because his hearse was damaged and off the road.

Five staff injured in remand centre fracas

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Police are investigating a "serious fracas" yesterday at Longriggend remand institution, Lanarkshire for young untried prisioners, which left five staff injured and the dining room unusable.

One of the injured staff, who included an assistant governor, was detained in hospital for observation. The others were allowed home. The injuries were consistent with heavy articles – chairs and tables – being thrown at them, a Scottish office spokesman said.

A police spokesman said: "A report is going to the Procurator Fiscal concerning nine inmates in connection with the incident."

Mrs Marie Renton, an official of the Scottish Prison Officers' Association, said: "Our local branch has been asking for a long time for extra staff. They say there was an explosive situation among inmates due to overcrowding and lack of staff.

"Some extra staff were drafted in but it was insufficient." She said that according to a report by HM Inspector of Prisons, staff morale at the centre was low, facilities poor and that there should be changes in staffing levels.

Trouble flared at the institution, near Airdire, after breakfast, when inmates refused to leave the dining hall.

Staff then sought to remove them, one table at a time. A struggle began when two of the inmates resisted. There were 85 to 100 inmates and eight staff in the dining hall.

The Scottish Office said later that inmates were in their rooms.

In a separate incident, 90 prisoners were found refusing to work at Dumfries Prison yesterday, complaining about rates of pay and canteen prices, particularly of tobacco, which increased after the Budget. The prisoners earn an average £2 a week and cigarette tobacco is now £1.86 an ounce, 14p more.

Government blamed over pig scheme

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

The Government's handling of the Aujeszky's disease eradication campaign, which has so far cost pig producers an estimated £15 million extra, is condemned in a report published yesterday by the Commons Select Committee on Agriculture.

The committee concludes that there has not only been "a good deal of muddle and some serious misunderstanding"

The scheme was established in 1982 with the proviso that it should be financed entirely by the industry. But officials of the Pig Disease Eradication Fund, established jointly by the National Farmers' Union and the National Pig Breeders' Association, have since said they were misled

The committee appears to agree. "Although it is argued that the ministry has no contractual obligation to bale out the industry, we do take the view that there is some departure from common justice when a department entirely escapes the consequences of what is at the very least is a lack of clarity of commitment and at most might amount to maladministration", the report says.

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PARLIAMENT APRIL 18 1985 Agriculture surpluses ● More people in work ● Insurance contributions

Britain has highest proportion in work

EMPLOYMENT

The proportion of the population of working age in work was higher in Britain then West Germany, France and Italy, and the equal to that of the United States, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questions, to cheers from her backbenchers.

Since March 1983 613,000 more jobs had been created, she said. If in March 1983 the Government had said it was its policy to create 600,000 more jobs by March 1985 it would not have been believed, but they had been created.

She was replying to Mr Timothy Brinton (Gravesham, C) who had asked: Has she had time to study the people at work figures published yesterday, which showed 340,000 more people in work than last year?

Will she confirm that at 65 per cent, the proportion of people in this country is among the highest in the major industrial nations and well above the European average.

Dr David Owen, Leader of the SDP: Has she seen the forecast that 10,000 job losses will result from the Budget national insurance changes by her former adviser, Sir John Hoskyns? Will she consider a reduction in the overall rate of employers' contributions to offset the welcome effect of the restructuring at the lower end of national insurance.

Mrs Thatcher: No. The restructuring of the whole of the employers' national insurance contributions taken over the whole board was slightly favourable to employers because they got more relief at the lower end. It will vary from employer to employer.

Mr Tony Baldry (Banbury C): We need to use both blades of the scissors to cut unemployment. Any suggestion of some return to an all-party simplistic Keynsian solution is equally as fraudulent as one that leaves it all to the market place.

Mrs Thatcher: There is no simplistic solution, otherwise we would not have unemployment all over Europe.

The solution is the creation of more genuine jobs and there have been 613,000 more jobs since 1983. The UK is the only major European country in which employment is currently increasing and the proportion of the population of working age in work is higher in the UK than in West Germany, France and Italy.

Results of reviews in two months

The results of the social security reviews are expected to be out within about two months, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during question time in the Commons.

She was replying to Viscount Cranborne (South Dorset, C) who asked her to give an undertaking that when the results of the reviews were considered she would consider the interaction between the social security and the taxation systems.

He also wanted her to consider reforms such as a basic income guarantee scheme or a negative income tax scheme.

Mrs Thatcher: I think it is better to wait until the results are out before making any comment. It was with interaction between social security and taxation in mind that the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr Nigel Lawson) reduced the employees' contributions on national insurance at the lower end of the income scale.

Putting the CAP house in order

FARM PRICES

Unless the EEC put its House in order now over agricultural prices it would be infinitely more difficult to so so at a later stage, bearing in mind the massive over-production and huge surpluses, Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in the Commons.

He reaffirmed that Britain was pressing for a 5 per cent cut in cereal prices in the EEC and that the 3.6 per cent reduction proposed by the Commission was inadequate.

Mr Gavin Strang (Edinburgh East, Lab) said there was desperate need to tackle the high cereal prices and the surpluses they create. This was why both sides of the House supported the stand the Minister had taken on this issue.

Will Mr Jopling give a cast-iron assurance (he went on) that he will support nothing less than the 3.6 per cent put forward by the Commission?

Mr Jopling: I agree it is important that the right signals are given right across the Community on cereals bearing in mind that at this harvest there could be 15 or 16 million tonnes of grain hanging over from the previous harvest.

Mr Eric Deakins (Walthamstow, Lab): What attitude will Mr Jopling take in the Council if, as is likely, his colleagues in Europe so alter the Commission's price proposals as to increase the total cost outside the scope of the financial guidelines laid down by the Finance Council?

Mr Jopling: If it seems likely at any stage of the negotiations that the cost of the proposals were to go above the agreed ceilings then there is provision for a joint council at a future date with the Finance Ministers as well to thrash out the financial problems.

Mr David Maclean (Penrith and the Borders, C): Following the representations he has received, will Mr Jopling give an assurance that he is looking most strongly to the Commission to abolish the co-responsibility levy and fighting for the retention of the beef variable premium?

Mr Jopling: On the beef variable premium, I have said it is my intention to fight for its continuance.

On the co-responsibility levy, the proposal of the Commission is to reduce it from 3 per cent to 2 per cent. I was much heartened to hear the French Minister say for the first time that we should be thinking in terms of phasing it out, a proposal I very much support.

Mr James Nicholson (Newry and Armagh, OUP): said reducing the co-responsibility levy by 1½ per cent would at least help the hard-pressed dairy farmers who had suffered much over the last 12 months, and this would in no way affect the price

Mr Jopling said that the year was extended to April 28 because a decision had not been reached. The Commission had made it clear there was nothing to stop a back-dated 1 per cent reduction in the levy to April 1.



Body: Dilemma for thousands of farmers

Mr Richard Body (Holland with Boston, C): If agricultural prices continue to decline then farmers' real incomes can only be improved by increased output. It will cause a great dilemma for many thousands of farmers unless there is a reversion of the policy here at home.

Mr Jopling: Naturally I am concerned about the impact of these measures on farmers' incomes.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): Does the Government believe, in accordance with their philosophy, that market forces will apply to farms and that uneconomic farms will close? Or do they believe in subsidising farmers continually, as they still are, to the tune of about £20,000 per farmer on average?

Mr Jopling: With regard to market forces, in France for instance there is anticipated to be a major reduction in the number of uneconomic dairy farms. That does demonstrate that market forces are now operating much more within the common agricultural policy. Level of support is being reduced. At the Stuttgart summit there was a general agreement that we could not continue subsidising and financing an enormous food surplus.

Mr Brynmor John, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture: Even if Mr Jopling achieves the full 5 per cent cut in cereal prices, there is still a danger that the Rake's progress of increased cereal production will continue.

Mr Jopling: Nobody can tell. Last year we did have what amounted to a reduction in cereal prices, I think many of those who are growing what amounts to surplus cereals on land which traditionally has not been used for growing cereals would consider whether it is wise for that to continue.

Hattersley attacks cuts for strikes

RATE SUPPORT

It was absurd that shire counties should be penalized because the Greater London Council had set a rate lower than the Government had anticipated, Mr Roy Hattersley, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, said during Prime Minister's questions.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, asked by Mr Hattersley to justify the system, said it had operated under previous governments.

Mr Hattersley, taking Mr Neil Kinnock's place while the Labour Leader is abroad, asked: While the Prime Minister was away, 39 shire counties were told that they were to receive less rate support grant than they had been promised. The reduction in that rate support grant is the direct result of the GLC levying a lower rate than the Government anticipated.

How does she justify penalizing Kent, Lancashire and Essex because the GLC has not raised its rate as much as the Government anticipated?

Mrs Thatcher: It is customary to give an expected rate support grant and later it is corrected. In this case it was corrected because the GLC decided to agree with the Secretary of State for the Environment (Mr Patrick Jenkin) and in spite of all their posturings set a rate below the rate limit he set.

Mr Hattersley: It may be customary under the new system but it is clearly absurd. I ask her again to explain why Lancashire should be penalized because the GLC has formed a lower rate than the Government anticipated.

Does it not demonstrate that the present system of rate support grant is preposterous and should be abolished and the Secretary of State for Environment should go with it?

Mrs Thatcher: No. The GLC has bent to the Secretary of State. The system used in this particular respect, namely the correction, is the system previously used.

Mr Hattersley: As always the Prime Minister scores high marks for irrelevent stridency. How does she justify Lancashire being penalized because the GLC has raised a lower rate than was anticipated?

Mrs Thatcher: This is a system which has applied not only under this Government but under previous governments. (Labour MPs: "Answer the question") There is no need to get excited and hysterical about it, that is a fact.

Taking too long to get to the question

HOUSE OF LORDS

There was a danger among peers, especially those who came from the Commons, of an instinctive desire to get round the Speaker, Lord Shackleton (Lab) said when the Lords debated the first report from the Select Committee on Procedure. But (he went on) we have no one to get round except ourselves. It has been very apparent that there has been a lot of shooting through our own goal in recent years.

Lord Aberdare, the Chairman of Committees, moving the report, said the procedure committee had rejected the suggestion that time limits should be imposed on questions because of the difficulties of enforcement and subsequent decrease in existing freedom and flexibility. The committee believed that instead an attempt should be made at stricter enforcement by the House of its existing rules.

The committee recommended guidance that should be observed in enforcing these rules. Supplementary questions should be short, should not be read and should not raise a number of points. If they did, ministers need only answer the main one. Ministers should not answer supplementary questions irrelevant to the question on the order paper, and the person tabling the question should have no automatic right to ask the final question.

The committee emphasized (he added) that the absence of a Speaker with power to keep order imposes on all of us the duty to ensure that the rules of order are followed.

Lady Seear, leader of the Liberal peers, said they supported the recommendations. They hoped that answers from the Government front bench would be succinct and to the point. Sometimes the best answer was "no" or even "yes".

Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C) said it was for the House to discipline itself in this matter. He hoped there would be insistence that the reading of supplementary question should not be permitted. If a supplementary was read it was clearly not spontaneous but prefabricated and that spoilt the whole spirit of question time.

The length of ministerial answers was on the whole excessive. In the Commons the model used to be the late Sir Stafford Cripps, who in answering 100 questions would reply "no" to 75 and "yes" to the remainder.

Lord Shinwell (Lab) said question time was of the utmost importance, particularly when questions related to matters of public interest. Lord Aberdare was asking the House to go too far.

We are (he continued) doing very well. You have to forgive us sometimes for being a little out of order. What do we want in this assembly – a drawing room? It is a House of public interest and national tradition and we ought to treat it as it deserves.

Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, said he was very susceptible to the charge that he might at some time when seeking to bring a question to an end appear to be doing so because he was hoping to put a stop to what would be regarded in many parts of the House as legitimate criticism of the Government.

He must never do that under any circumstances and sometimes it meant that he must let the question run on. In the report and in many of the views that had been put forward he had received the helpful guidance he wanted.

The report was agreed to.

Rebels vote against TV fee rise

TV LICENCE

Nine Conservative MPs rebelled against the Government late on Wednesday night and voted against the new £58 television licence fee. They forced a division on an Opposition motion opposing the increase in the fee was rejected by 290 votes to 9 – Government majority, 281. Labour MPs did not vote.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, an Opposition home affairs spokesman, said a future Labour Government would not allow advertising on BBC television or radio, which would not only damage the BBC, television and the media in general, but was unacceptable and indefensible in principle.

A Labour Government would also phase out television licences for pensioners at an annual cost of £320 million – equivalent to taking out seven months of the Trident programme, he said to Conservative protests. This was a bargain Labour was prepared to pay.

Labour wanted to protect the political independence of the BBC and protect it from the Philistine avarice and greed exhibited by Conservative backbenchers.

The Labour pledge was condemned by Mr Mark Carlisle (Warrington South, C) as shameless vote-catching and a disgrace, and by Mr Clement Freud (North East Cambridgeshire, L) as a charter to rent a granny.

Mr Giles Shaw, Home Office Minister of State, replying, said there was no way the Government wanted to take over the management and run the BBC.

The Peacock Committee had been given as its terms of reference a wide range of options that would ensure many of the proposals put forward by MPs would be taken into account.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Intoxicating Substances (Supply) Bill and Copyright (Computer Software) Amendment Bill remaining stages.

National insurance changes approved

BUDGET CHANGES

Changes announced in the Budget to national insurance contributions would foster the creation of new jobs and improve incentives, Mr Anthony Newton, Minister for Social Security and the Disabled, said in the Commons at the opening of the report stage of the Social Security Bill.

He moved a Government new clause and a series of consequential and related amendments to implement what he called the most significant changes in the structure of national insurance contributions since the introduction of full earnings related contributions.

There would, he said be a graduated system of contribution rates. At present there were two lower rates of contribution – 9 per cent for employees and 10.45 per cent for employers, in respect of all earnings they had inside the lower earnings limit of £35.50 and the upper earnings limit of £265, above which contributions were not paid.

The Government proposed from October 6 1985 two brackets of lower contribution rate of 5 per cent and 7 per cent for employees with lower earnings and three brackets of 5 per cent, 7 per cent and 9 per cent for employers in respect of their lower paid employees.

That meant that employers would pay less in contributions on all earnings under £130 a week, and all employees earning less athan £90 a week would similarly pay less.

The Government was also seeking to abolish the upper earnings limit for employers' contributions from October 6 1985. They would pay 10.45 per cent rate of contributions for all earnings over £130. The class 2 flat rate of contribution paid by self-employed would be reduced by one quarter from £4.75 to £3.50 a week.

Despite the increased income from the abolition of the upper earnings limit of employers' contributions, there would be an overall cost in a full year of £450 million – £80 million from the reduction in employers' contributions, £270 million from the reduction in employers' contributions and £100 million from the reduction in contributions by the self-employed.

These changes would improve social and economic objectives, first by the creation of new jobs as part of what Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, called the "Budget for Jobs". As a direct result of the changes the cost of employing some 8,500,000 workers earning up to £130 a week would fall by up to £3 a week for the lowest paid. Employers' contributions would be cut by more than half.

This would make existing jobs more secure and give great encouragement to create new jobs in this part of the job market, in particular the job prospects of young people.

The other objective was to improve incentives by increasing the rewards of employment at modest earnings levels and giving additional help to the low paid who were in employment now.

The proposed national insurance changes alone would mean an increase in income from £1.10 a week to £2.18 a week for nearly 3,500,000 workers earning less than £90 a week.

Mrs Margaret Beckett, an Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said the major effect of the changes would be to add extra incentive to keeping wages down. That was as dishonest as it was damaging at a time when water rates had increased, gas and electricity bills were increasing, NHS prescription charges had gone up again and the Government was constantly talking about people standing on their own two feet and taking more of the burden for pensions and encouraging more private education and private health care.

The Government seemed to feel that higher earners must be allowed to earn more as an incentive, whereas lower earners should earn less in order to have incentive. That was not logical.

Mr Roy Galley (Halifax, C) said considering the help the changes would give to the creation of jobs it was exceedingly surprising it had been given such a cool reception by the Opposition.

Mr Frank Field (Birkenhead, Lab) said he supported the proposal because it was better than the present system.

Mr Neil Hamilton (Tatton, C) said everyone would applaud a reduction in the national insurance burden on the lower paid. But the Government's proposal would create some difficulties.

Mr Charles Kennedy (Ross, Cromrty and Skye, SDP) said the improvements, although welcome, were likely, within the contezxt of the economy at the moment, to be improvements at the margins. He hoped these proposals heralded a first step towards an integrated tax and benefits system

Mr John Watts (Slough, C) said he had a particularly warm welcome for the restructuring of contibutions. It would be a sadness if this imaginative restructuring proposal had as an unintentional effect a disencouragement to employers in offering incentive bonus schemes.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C) said the Treasury and Civil Service select committee of which he was chairman had taken evidence from Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the CBI on removing the upper limit on employers' contributions. He had pointed out that it may well be the case – that because of increased costs at the upper end of the scale employers may find they were reducing employment at the lower end of the scale.

The new clause was agreed to.

Councils not to get say on water

FLUORIDATION

An attempt to make the fluoridation of public water supplies subject to the approval of local councils was defeated during the committee stage in the House of Lords of the Water (Fluoridation) Bill. An amendment to that effect was rejected by 90 votes to 64 – Government majority 26.

Lord Sandys (C) moving it, said the wishes of the locally-elected authority were not taken into account in the decision whether to add fluoride to the water supply or not. In the light of opposition expressed to the proposal, it was right that the consumers should have a voice.

Lady Trumpington, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said that local authorities no longer had responsibility for the provision of water or of facilities for preventative health measures.

It would be wrong, therefore, to give a decision on whether to fluoridate or not to a body which had no statutory authority for carrying it out.

The Government attached great importance to health authorities consulting local opinion prior to taking a decision and would be proposing an amendment to that effect later in the debate.

White Paper on strategy not ruled out

AGRICULTURE

The Government should produce a general strategy document on agriculture soon, in the light of the new restrictionist policies, Mr Michael Latham (Rutland and Melton, C) said during Commons question on rationalizing the common agricultural policy.

He said those who had heard former ministers introduce expansionist White Papers looked to Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to produce the document.

Mr Jopling replied that now, when there were so many uncertainties, and matters reaching fruition, it would not be appropriate to produce a White Paper of that sort.

But I do not rule it out (he added) and I have an open mind on that in the future.

Mr Robert Maclennan (Caithness and Sutherland, SDP) asked why Mr Jopling wanted to stand the expansionist policy of his predecessor on its head.

Mr Jopling said that in June 1983, within a few weeks of the last general election, the European Council met in Stuttgart and at last decided that the CAP should be brought back to reality and rationality. Had this sensible decision been taken years earlier, and it would have been had British advice been followed, it would have been possible to return the CAP to a degree of realism.

Government wants to keep beef premium

The Government would use every endeavour to retain the variable beef premium scheme this year, Mr John MacGregor, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said during a Commons question on the prospects for the beef sector.

Mr James Spicer (West Dorset, C): Does he share the view that the EEC Commission is so rational as to border on the lunatic? Did he hear a representative of the Commission on the farming programme this (Thursday) morning declaring in no uncertain terms that they were going to see the end of the variable beef premium scheme? Is that not a nonsense?

Mr MacGregor: We are going to use every endeavour to retain the scheme this year. One of the arguments is that without the premium we estimate that 75,000 to 80,000 tonnes of beef would have gone into intervention last year to keep the producer price on the same level.

With all the problems of physical storage, it is better it goes on to the consumers' plates, rather than into intervention.

Price restraint the policy for cereals

A sustained policy of price restraint was the best way to improve the balance of the cereals market, Mr John MacGregor, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said during Commons questions.

He said these decisions were matters for the EEC but he accepted the need to bring cereals into better balance. Direct production restriction would be one way of doing this. Other ways included developing new outlets, finding new ways of financing existing policies, encouraging the greater operation of market forces through a restrictive price policy or reducing the impact and coverage of support measures.

Mr John Home Robertson, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture, said the draconian price cuts which would be necessary to suppress production would devastate smaller producers.

Would Mr MacGregor take his advice and consult on contingency plans for cereal quotas, or had he not learned anything from the shambles of the hastily introduced milk quota scheme?

Mr MacGregor: He underestimates the effect that a sustained price restraint policy ould have.

We have been making contingency plans and it is our analysis of the alternatives and our awareness of the disadvantages and difficulties involved which lead us to the view that price restraint is by far the best answer, if it can be achieved.

Mr David Harris (St Ives, C) sought an assurance that contingency plans were ready to be introduced quickly

Mr MacGregor said that in the price fixing negotiations the proposal on the table was one of price restraint.

Debate on welfare state on Monday

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on an Opposition motion on the welfare state.

Tuesday: Debate on an Alliance motion on trade union ballots. Ports (Finance) Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Debate on White Paper on Financial Services in the United Kingdom.

Thursday: Debate on foreign affairs.

Friday: Motor Cycle Crash Helmets (Restriction of Liability) Bill and Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill, remaining stages.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Debates on the Falkland Islands; EEC committee report on lead in petrol; and on water supplies.

Tuesday: Debate on relations with the Soviet Union.

Wednesday: Debates on housing; chemical weapons; and on the cultural heritage.

Thursday: Further Education Bill, second reading.

Debate sought on pensions

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman health and social security, unsuccessfully sought an emergency Commons debate on what he described as a Government plan to axe the state earnings-related pension scheme.

If the Government were to carry this through, it would be by far the most serious attack yet on pensioners

Hopes for reform of rates

The Government hopes to legislate on rates reform before the next election, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, told the Commons.

She had been asked by Mr Timothy Yeo (Suffolk South, C): Is she aware that abolition of domestic rates would be one of the most popular steps this Government could take?

Mrs Thatcher: It will be some time before the detailed results on rates reform come out. They will be published for consultation and discussion in this House.

Divisional Court — Law Report April 19 1985 — Court of Appeal

Court cannot refuse to try illegally deported suspect

Regina v Plymouth Justices, Ex parte Driver

Before Lord Justice Stephen Brown, Mr Justice Stuart-Smith and Mr Justice Otton

[Judgment delivered April 3]

The courts had no power to refuse to try a person who was within the jurisdiction and had been lawfully arrested within the jurisdiction for a crime committed within the jurisdiction. Accordingly the Divisional Court had no discretion by prohibition to stop the prosecution, for a murder allegedly committed in England, of an Australian who had been deported to England from Turkey in circumstances which rendered the deportation illegal in Turkish law.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved judgment, dismissing an application by Mr Andrew Michael Driver, an Australian citizen, for judicial review by way of orders of prohibition requiring the Plymouth Justices not to proceed with committal proceedings in respect of a charge of murder proferred against him, and of certiorari to quash the charge.

Mr Arthur Mildon, QC and Mr Anthony Donne for the applicant; Mr Clive Nicholls, QC and Mr John Laws for the Home Office and the Director of Public Prosecutions; Mr John Nutting for the Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHEN BROWN said that the applicant had been on holiday in Plymouth when a murder had been committed. The following day the applicant had left the country and the police, suspecting him of the murder, had inquired through Interpol as to his whereabouts.

About four weeks later he had been arrested in Turkey, and the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, on being made aware of that, had sought the cooperation of the Turkish authorities to confirm his identity and assist in establishing his connection with the crime.

The police had told the Turkish authorities that they had no authority to seek his extradition or deportation but that if it was within their power to deport him to the United Kingdom it would assist the police to interview him.

The Turkish authorities had told the police that they would expel the applicant "United Kingdom direction" and asked them to pay his air fare which they had done. The applicant had then been deported from Turkey in a way which was illegal in Turkey, and flown to Heathrow airport where he had been lawfully arrested.

Upon being interviewed the applicant had made a statement and had been charged with murder the following day.

The applicant had contended that his deportation had amounted to a disguised extradition and that since the deportation had been unlawful in Turkey and against his will, and since he could not have been extradited from Turkey, the case was on all fours with the decision in *R v Bow Street Magistrates, Ex parte Mackeson* ((1981) 75 Cr App R 24), the applicant's presence in England having been procured by irregular cooperation between the English and Turkish police.

In *Mackeson's* case, the Divisional Court had prohibited committal proceedings against the applicant where he had been brought into the jurisdiction by unlawful means, namely a deportation order disguised as extradition: it was held that although the English court clearly had jurisdiction to try him, regardless of how he had come to be in the jurisdiction, the court had a discretion to prohibit the proceedings where unlawful means had been used to bring him into the jurisdiction.

In reaching its decision in that case the court had followed the decision of the New Zealand Court of Appeal in *R v Hartley* ((1978) 2 NZLR 199), which in turn had purported to apply the decision of the Divisional Court in *R v Officer Commanding Depot Battalion RASC, Colchester, Ex parte Elliott* ([1949] 1 All ER 373), where it had been held that English courts had jurisdiction to try persons in the jurisdiction, notwithstanding that they had been brought there unlawfully.

However, in *Hartley's* case it had been held that *Elliot's* case and the authorities on which it was based dealt only with the question of jurisdiction and did not prevent the court exercising its statutory or inherent discretion to prevent an abuse of its own process by prohibiting the continuance of a prosecution.

On the basis of those decisions the applicant had submitted that the court had a discretion to grant the relief sought if irregular means had been used to procure his return in which the British authorities had participated or concurred, and that the discretion should be exercised to mark the court's disapproval of such arbitrary action.

In his Lordship's judgment, it had not been established that the English police had been guilty of any improper dealing. They had never sought the applicant's detention or continued detention in Turkey and had never encouraged the Turkish authorities to act illegally in any way.

Accordingly, even if the decisions in *Hartley* and *Mackeson* were right, the application would in this case be refused.

It had been further submitted on behalf of the Home Office that the court had no power to inquire into the circumstances in which a person was found in the jurisdiction for the purpose of refusing to try him, and that *Mackeson's* case had been decided *per incuriam*. It had been contended that that principle had been established in England since the early nineteenth century and had been approved in *Elliot's* case, its basis being that it was in the predominant public interest to try and punish crime, that it had been followed in parallel decisions in the United States, and that there was a further principle that if there was a breach of foreign sovereignty or foreign law it was for the foreign state to vindicate its own law and for the complainant to prosecute his own wrong.

His Lordship referred to *Ex parte Susannah Scott* ((1829) 9 B & C 446, 448) and to *Sinclair v HM Advocate* ((1890) 17 R (Ct Sess) 38). In the latter case, the Lord Justice Clerk said that even if proceedings in Scotland were irregular, where a court of competent jurisdiction had a prisoner before it upon a competent complaint they were bound to try him, no matter what had happened before, even though he might have been harshly treated by a foreign government and irregularly dealt with by a subordinate officer.

In *Elliot's* case, the Divisional Court had adopted without qualification the decision in *Sinclair's* case as representing the law of England and had referred to *Scott's* case, where questions of abuse of process as well as jurisdiction had arisen.

The court in *Hartley's* case seemed to have thought that *Elliott's* case had been concerned only with questions of jurisdiction; that was not the case, and *Elliott's* case was authority for the proposition that the courts had no discretion such as the court in *Hartley* held that they had. The same view had been taken in the American courts: see *Ker v Illinois* ((1866) 119 US 436).

The court in *Mackeson's* case had been referred to *R v Governor of Brixton Prison, Ex parte Soblen* ([1963] 2 QB 243), a case concerning the validity of a deportation order from the United Kingdom, and had referred to "the line between *Soblen* and *Hartley*."

However, *Soblen* did not bear on that issue, concerned as it was with the exercise of a discretionary power by a minister of the Crown, and there was no "line" between it and *Hartley*.

His Lordship had come to the conclusion that the court had no power to inquire into the circumstances in which a person was found within the jurisdiction for the purpose of refusing to try him. It followed that he must differ from the decision in *Mackeson's* case, which had been decided *per incuriam*, since the court had not there been referred to *Scott* or *Sinclair*, and might have considered *Elliott's* case in the light of the reference to it in *Hartley's* case.

The court should follow the decision in *Elliot's* case, particularly the passage from Lord Goddard's judgment, at p377, where he had said that the Divisional Court had neither title nor interest to inquire as to the regularity of proceedings under which a fugitive was apprehended and given over into custody.

Both on the facts of this case and on the principle annunciated in *Elliott's* case, the application should be dismissed.

Mr Justice Stuart-Smith and Mr Justice Otton agreed.

Solicitors: Norman Sitters & Son, Plymouth: Treasury Solicitor: Mr Gordon Etherington, Exeter.

Duty to give reasons

Banaskiewicz v Mulholland

It was the duty of a judge in the county court to give reasons for his judgment upon the trial of an action, even though it had not occurred either to the judge or to counsel that an appeal was at all likely. Where one party was unrepresented, it was the duty of counsel for the other party to remind the judge of his duty to give reasons if he did not give them of his own accord.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice Bush) so stated on April 16, granting an application by the plaintiff for a new trial in an action in Brentford County Court, in which Judge Barr had dismissed the plaintiff's claim without giving reasons.

Silence cannot imply consent

Allied Marine Transport Ltd v Vale do Rio Doce Navegacao SA

Before Lord Justice Griffiths, Lord Justice Robert Goff and Lord Justice Stephen Brown

[Judgment delivered April 3]

The silence and inaction of parties resulting in a long delay in proceeding with a reference to arbitration could not, in the absence of exceptional circumstances, be regarded as amounting to a binding agreement to abandon the reference. The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the owners of the vessel, Leonidas D, Allied Marine Transport Ltd, from a decision of Mr Justice Mustill ([1984] 1 WLR 1) who gave judgment for the charterers, Vale do Rio Doce Navegacao SA.

Mr Kenneth Rokinson, QC and Mr Richard Aikens for the owners; Mr Gordon Pollock QC and Mr Michael Collins for the charterers.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF, delivering the judgment of the court, said that in April 1975 the owners chartered the vessel to the charterers for 18 to 24 months under a time charter in the New York Produce Exchange Form which also contained a London arbitration clause.

Disputes arose between the parties on two occasions about the fitness of the vessel's holds to receive grain cargo. On each occasion the charterers claimed that in consequence they incurred expense in paying specialised shore labour to make the holds fit and that time was lost while the work was being done. The total sum claimed was about $110,000.

Following the first incident the charterers deducted the sum claimed in respect of that incident from the hire.

However, by the time when the next instalment of hire was due after the second incident, the parties had reached an agreement whereby the charterers would pay the amount of hire due; the owners would not withdraw the vessel for non-payment of hire; the owners would give the charterers an irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of $51,878 which would be considered null and void if the charterers failed to name an arbitrator before April 30, 1976.

By the end of April 1976 each party had appointed its arbitrator but no third arbitrator (or umpire) had ever been appointed. On May 19, 1976 the owners caused the letter of credit to be opened by the Bank of Nova Scotia in New York

The practical effect of the issue of the letter of credit was that it took no account of the possibility that the charterers would do nothing at all and that placed the owners in an unenviable position. The only way in which they could obtain release of the letter of credit would be to obtain a favourable award.

The arbitrators had no jurisdiction to make an award dismissing the claim for want of prosecution. The owners would therefore have to provoke the charterers to revive their claim and fight it solely for the purpose of having the claim dismissed.

Similarly, if the owners instructed the bank not to renew the credit the charterers would be entitled to call for payment and the owners would than need to revive the arbitration in order to obtain the return of their money.

The only other possibility was to go on renewing the credit until sufficient time had elapsed to justify the intervention of the court, assuming that the court had jurisdiction to intervene. That was what the owners in fact did at a renewal fee of $259 a year. Thereafter no steps were taken to pursue the arbitration until August 1981.

The judge had to consider whether there had been a mutual abandonment of the reference to arbitration or alternatively whether the owners could invoke the principle of equitable estoppel.

The judge decided that the reference to arbitration had been mutually abandoned and granted a declaration to that effect. He also expressed the opinion that the plaintiffs could have successfully invoked the principle of equitable estoppel.

Their Lordships had to consider an appeal from a decision that a binding agreement should be inferred from silence and inaction which were here considered to be capable of giving rise to an offer by one party and to an acceptance by the other communicated in response to that offer.

That was most surprising since it was believed to be axiomatic that acceptance of an offer could not be inferred from silence, save in the most exceptional circumstances. There did not appear to be any special circumstances in the silent abandonment of the reference to arbitration, which could justify any departure from the general principle.

In the absence of special circumstances, silence and inaction by a party to a reference were objectively considered, just as consistent with his having inadvertently forgotten about the matter or, with his simply hoping that the mauer would die a natural death if he did not stir up the other party or with his solicitors being slow. If so, there should be on ordinary principles, no basis for the inference of an offer.

Exactly the same comment could be made of the silence or inaction of the other party and for the same reasons there appeared to be no basis for drawing the inference of an acceptance in response to the supposed offer, still less of the communication of that acceptance

The same difficulty arose in invoking the principles of equitable estoppel in such circumstances. It was well settled that that principle required that one party should have made an unequivocal representation that he did not intend to enforce his strict legal rights against the other. Yet it was difficult to imagine how silence and inaction could be anything but equivocal.

Solicitors: Richards, Butler & Co-Ince & Co.

هكذا من الأصل

Britain urged by MPs to take more Vietnamese boat people

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Britain should open its doors to hundreds more Vietnamese boat people, many of whom have been trapped for years as "prisoners" in Hong Kong's closed refugee camps, a Commons report said yesterday.

A commitment to accept a "relatively modest intake" might persuade other countries to accept more of the 11,900 refugees now in camps, the all-party home affairs select committee says.

If Britain accepted up to 500 more refugees "it would be a small price to pay for the reuniting of many families, the elimination of a great deal of human suffering and hopelessness, the resolution of a major problem in a territory for which *Britain is responsible, and, by* enabling the abolition of the closed camps, the removing of a considerable stain on Britain's humanitarian reputation," the report says.

The MPs insist that a new intake by Britain, adding to the 19,000 Vietnamese already here, is a precondition of resolving the problem and that "no substantial progress" can otherwise be made in emptying the camps.

Nearly one in five refugees in Hong Kong have spent more than five years in camps. Those arriving since July 1982 have been placed in closed, as opposed to open, camps in an attempt to deter other Vietnamese from following. About 6,000 refugees are in such camps, where they are subject to discipline and not allowed to work. Conditions are often overcrowded.

The committee says it is "intolerable that refugees should be treated in effect as prisoners with unlimited sentences on territory for which Britain is responsible.

"We find it particularly abhorrent that children born in the closed camps should spend the first years of their lives in such a way. Unless the situation changes, there will shortly be children of school age who have spent their entire lives in closed camps."

The MPs recommend the abolition of closed camps with inmates being transferred to open camps. And they call on the Foreign Office, which is already committed under a treaty with China to resolve the problems of the camps before 1997, to make the resolution of Hong Kong's refugee problem a "major priority".

The report which highlights the severe problems facing Vietnamese already in Britain – especially unemployment and language difficulties – calls on the Government to adop special measures. The task of resettling the Vietnamese satisfactorily had proved larger and longer than expected, and government assistance had not adequately reflected the magnitude of the problem, Mr Wheeler said.

Refugees and Asylum, with Special Reference to the Vietnamese, (home affairs select committee (Stationery Office. £4.65).

Proposals to clarify laws on marriage

Ways to avoid potentially damaging confusion over present marriage laws are being proposed by the Law Commission (Our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).

Uncertainty about, and the complexity of, the law governing marriages with a foreign connection have made it the subject of considerable criticism and speculation, the Law Commission and Scottish Law Commission say in consultative documents.

An increasing number of marriages have some foreign links and it is particularly important for people to be able to say with certainty whether their marriage is, or will be, valid. Matters as diverse as tax liability, social security benefits, inheritance and status may depend on its validity.

The commissions say that the formal validity of a marriage should continue to be governed by the law of the country where *the ceremony takes place.* Subject to minor amendments, the statutory exceptions to that rule, relating to consular marriages abroad and marriages abroad of persons in the Services, should be retained.

All issues of leagal capacity to marry should be governed by *the law of each party's domicile* before marriage.

Choice of Law, Rules in Marriage (Law Commission Working Paper No 89, Scottish Law Commission Consultative Memorandum No 64, Stationery Office: £3.50).

Spending on hospitals falls for first time

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Spending on hospital and community health services, as measured in terms of what health authorities could actually buy with their budgets, fell last year, almost certainly for the first time sincee the National Health Service was founded.

Figures provided by the Department of Health and Social Security to the social services committee of the House of Commons, show that in cash terms current spending in 1984-85 rose by £478 million to £9,118 million.

But once pay rises and the higher rate of inflation for hospital equipment and goods than in the economy generally was allowed for, health authorities' purchasing power fell by 0.1 per cent.

Even in 1976, when the sterling crisis forced cuts in planned health service spending, input volume – health authorities' purchasing power allowing for health service pay and rises – remained static rather than falling.

The decline in spending power occurred partly because of transfers from revenue to capital, partly because pay rises were not fully funded, and because health service inflation is higher than general inflation.



Jane Ackroyd with her sculpture "The Little Prince" which will be moved on Saturday from London to the Royal Exchange, Manchester (Photograph: John Manning).

Cash crisis causes shorter opera tour

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Seven weeks of regional tours by opera companies will be scrapped because of lack of Arts Council funds.

The cuts affect tours throughout England and will hamper the council's attempts to promote provincial arts at the expense of those in London, as outlined in last year's *Glory of the Garden* strategy.

The cancelled tours were to be by the Welsh National Opera in Birmingham, Bristol, and Liverpool; the Kent Opera in Brighton and Poole; the Scottish Opera in Leeds; Opera North in Norwich and the Glynebourne Touring Opera in Nottingham and Plymouth.

But the Welsh Opera's week in Birmingham will be filled by Glynebourne, and WNO will take Glynebourne's Plymouth place, leaving a net loss of seven weeks out of the total of nine cancelled weeks.

Mr David Pratley, the council's regional director, said that the companies had to be maintained as continuous enterprises, which meant that the loss of performing weeks simply represented lost value *for money for the council*, the Government, and the taxpayer.

"At a time of expansion in the council's support for the regions, it is said that the general level of next year's grants has prevented us from even maintaining last year's *level of support* for regional opera," he said. "In an expensive and labour-intensive part of our industry, the gap between grants and rising costs can only be closed finally by the loss of performing weeks."

The total cost of regional opera in England, financed by the Arts Council over the next year, is just over £6million.

Tobacco deal 'farcical'

The British Medical Association yesterday described as farcial and completely inadequate an agreement between the Department of Health and Social Security and a United States tobacco company to "limit" the marketing of a new tobacco product (Nicholas Timmins writes).

US Tobacco International has agreed to restrict the advertising of Skoal Bandits, tea-bag like sachets of fine tobacco chewed and held between the cheek and gum, to adults and non-smokers.

The BMA said it was farcical to believe that young people, school children and non-smokers would not see the advertisements.

Under a two-year agreement, the company is to fund research into the dangers of "snuff-dipping" as the habit is known, but the Department of Health and Social Security has already been told by its Committee on Carcinogenicity that the habit "significantly increases the risk of developing cancer of the mouth".

Ban sought on dredging in Solent

A moratorium on dredging in the Solent has been called for until its effects on the Isle of Wight coast can be calculated.

Regulations governing dredging were inadequate and unenforceable, the Solent Protection Society said at a conference on protecting the island's coast.

Coupled with the difficulties of monitoring licensed dredging and of measuring amounts of material raised, there was the question of unlicensed operations, Air Vice-Marshal Sir Alan Boxer, vice-chairman of the society, said.

"This is a particularly difficult offence to verify in the absence of policing and it has been reported by random sources ranging from inshore fishermen to individuals located at coastal sites around the Solent", he said.

Sir Alan urged the setting-up of a joint coast protection committee for maritime councils between Anvil Point, Dorset, and the west of the Isle of Wight, and Selsey Bill in the east.

The society wanted a review of ways and means for enforcing existing conditions on dredging licenses, including powers to ensure that commerical advantages of illicit operations were offset.

Jaguar sets new sales records

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Jaguar has broken all records for sales and production in the first three months of his year. It is now exporting £2 million worth of cars each day.

Exports account for 75 per cent of production with 55 per cent going to America

Since it broke from the state-controlled BL Group a year ago Jaguar has established new sales companies in France, Italy, Belgium, The Netherlands and Spain.

As the new £7 million headquarters of Jagnar Netherlands was opened at Houten, near Utrecht, yesterday by Mr John Margetson, the British ambassador, Mr John Egan, Chairman and Chief Executive of Jaguar, said: "We are well on the way to achieving our *target of 10 per cent growth in* world sales this year".

Jaguar sales rose by 13 per cent to 8,883 in the first three months compared to 7,860 last year. Production totalled 10,606, a record for any quarter and 15 per cent higher than the previous best of 9,220 last year. Jaguar is well on the way to its 1985 target of 36,000 cars.

Battle for the counties

'Upward shift' in support should benefit Alliance

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent



Alliance and Labour candidates should do better than Conservatives in the shire elections, according to the compilers of a computerized by-election survey. Last month was an especially good one for the Liberals who contested 24 seats, held 5 and won 14 from other parties.

The survey, to be published today in *Local Government Chronicle*, was compiled at Plymouth Polytechnic by Mr Colin Rallings and Mr Michael Thrasher.

Mr Crispin Derby, editor of the magazine, said: "This is the only independent and authorative survey of by-election and election results in local government now that the results are no longer collected by the Home Office".

The two compilers said that the results in the survey did not support the confident prediction of Conservatives that they would recover control of most of the county councils which they lost when elections were last held four years ago.

Elections are to be held on May 2 for all Welsh and most English county council seats. It will be the only big electoral test of the Government's popularity this year.

The Rallings/Thrasher survey covers by-elections throughout Great Britain. They say that recent results show a clear "upward shift" in support for both Alliance parties, but especially for the Liberals. Several of the Liberal victories "reflect electoral swings of enormous proportions which must be heartening for the Liberals, and deeply disturbing for the Tories".

Labour has made few gains, but has lost very few seats that it has defended. Conservative candidates in the coming shire elections have high hopes of regaining overall majorities in the hung authorities of Berkshire and Cambridgeshire.

Dr John Cunningham, Labour's chief spokesman on the environment, said yesterday that Conservative-led county councils would lose even more grant through the complexities of the Government's local authority financial machinery.

The fixing of rates below the ceilings allowed by law by two rate-capped Labour borough councils in London had entitled them to more grant than the Government expected. Since the grant total was now fixed for the coming year, their extra grant entitlement had to be taken away from other councils, he said.

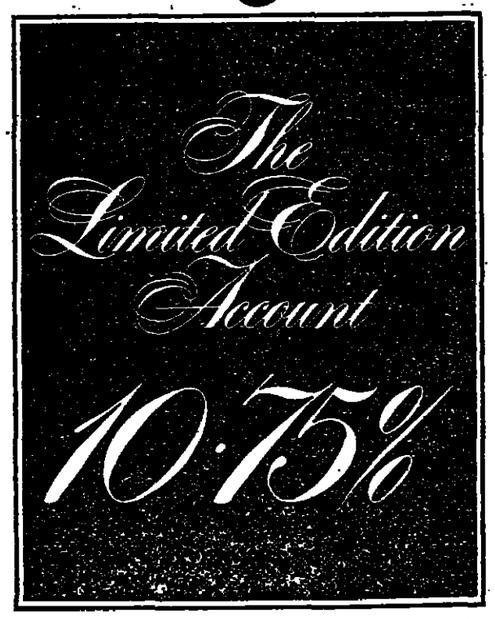
But the "absurd complexities of the block grant system" meant that the deduction was not shared equally. Some Conservative-led councils with high rateable values would lose more than an equal share. They included Buckinghamshire and Surrey, each of which would lose more than £2 million.

COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS: June 1984-March 1985
All types of council in Gt Britain

	Gained	Held	Lost	Net outcome
Con	10	76	67	−57
Lab	24	102	13	+11
Lib	58	26	12	+46
SDP	14	15	3	+11
Ind	5	10	17	−12
Plyprs	3	0	1	+2
Others	1	3	2	−1.

Source: Local Government Chronicle

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Confident Mugabe glows with praise for all apart from Nkomo

From Jan Raath, Harare

Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, has said his country is "wonderfully well" after its first five years of independence.

Addressing the nation on television on Wednesday night, the eve of the five-year independence anniversary, Mr Mugabe was aglow with praise for nearly all sectors and forecast "bumper years" in the immediate future.

The exception was Mr Joshua Nkoma, and his opposition Zapu, which Mr Mugabe described as "the party to whom the dissidents (anti-government guerrillas) daily profess their allegiance." Mr Mugabe promised "total ruin" to anyone who failed to heed his call for reconciliation of old differences.

There was no racial animosity now, he said. The economy was set to grow at a rate of 5 per cent, a record harvest was about to be reaped and he predicted a "bumper victory" for his party, Zanu (PF), in the elections due in June. He promised they would not be delayed again, having originally set them for March.

About 40,000 people yesterday squeezed into Rufaro football stadium near Harare's city centre to watch the day-long celebrations for which patriotic Zimbabweans donated more than 1 million Zimbabwe dollars (£525,000).

An ebullient Mr Mugabe, and his aged mother, Mrs Bona Mugabe, who sheltered from the oppressive heat under a parasol, watched the 21-gun salute, helicopter displays, motorcycle trick riding and the rest of the entertainment.

President Canaan Banana delivered an hour-long review of the state of the nation while soldiers in dress uniforms fainted and a troupe of about 50 children – whose fifth birthdays fell yesterday and who have been dubbed "born free" – popped balloons and chased each other next to the Prime Minister's podium.

Highlighted in the President's review were the 50 per cent cut in infant mortality, the 97 per cent of children of primary school age receiving formal education, the women who now make up 43.7 per cent of the Civil Service and the launching of the preferential trade area which had gone some way towards lowering tariff barriers between states in the region.

The security problem in the western province of Matabeleland was dealt with by both Mr Mugabe and President Banana with promises of more decisive deployment of troops.

Independence celebrations in Bulawayo, though not as lavish as Harare's, were attended by about 30,000 massed in Barbourfields stadium. Mr Nkomo was not seen at the stadium during the morning. Large numbers of police, many of them armed, provided tight security. Despite the cheerful crowd and the large numbers, uppermost in the minds of many will have been the violence of the past three years. The first years of the Government's anti-guerrilla campaign have left hundreds of civilians dead, more the victims of unchecked barbarism by troops than of guerrillas. Matabeleland is likely to remain in a dark stain on Zimbabwe's record.

Eagle symbol is banned

The Government has forced Zapu to drop the bateleur eagle as its symbol. Dr Eddison Zvobgo, the Minister of Justice, said at a press conference that the eagle, a common bird of prey in Zimbabwe, was also used as the insignia of the Air Force and of the combat wing of the police force.

Zapu launched the symbol at its congress late last year, when it appeared on a huge banner behind Mr Nkomo as he addressed delegates.

Expelled teachers say prisoners are tortured

By Richard Dowden

Two teachers expelled from Zimbabwe after a month's detention without trial said in London yesterday that some of the aims of the revolution had not been fulfilled yet and that Zimbabwe was being forced to follow the dictates of the International Monetary Fund.

Mr David Hemson and Mr Darcy Du Toit, both South African exiles, were described by Zimbabwe as "undesirable" and accused of trying to set up a political organization of disaffected Zimbabweans.

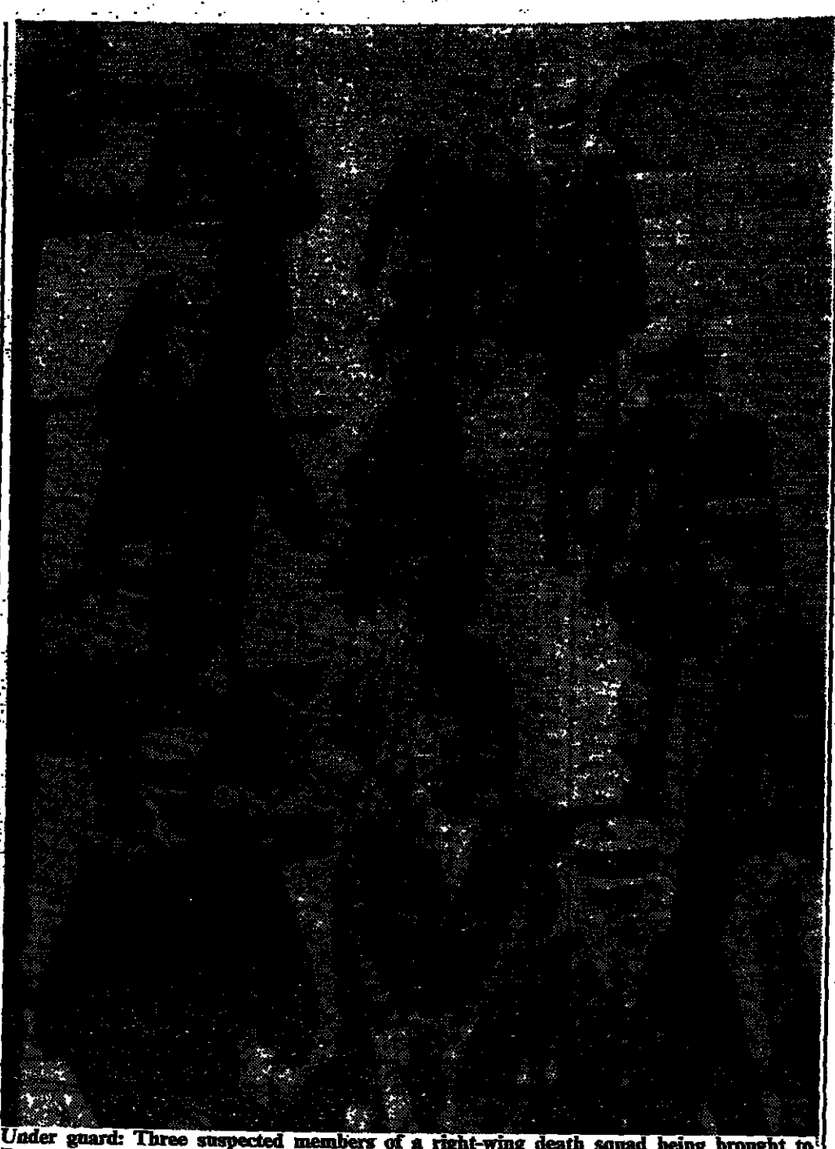
"We were simply trying to teach socialism to the people", said Mr Hemson. "We were not trying to influence party tensions, we were trying to develop the struggle and give it concrete expression."

Both men described themselves as supporters of Militant Tendency within the Labour Party in Britain. Mr Hemson, who was a teacher on a three-year contract at Highfields School, was expelled five years ago from the South African Congress of Trade Unions, which has links with the African National Congress, for his left-wing views.

Mr Hemson said he had become involved in handling complaints against union officials, many of whom he described as corrupt and out of touch with their rank and file.

Both men said that torture of political prisoners took place in Zimbabwean prisons and at Chikurubi, the top security prison, prisoners were forbidden access to their families, lawyers or the Red Cross. Mr Du Toit described conditions there as very primitive. Prisoners were not even allowed a spoon to eat with.

Mr Hemson said that every interrogation normally began with a beating. Electric shocks and burns with cigarettes were also common.



Under guard: Three suspected members of a right-wing death squad being brought to Bayonne court yesterday to be charged with murdering Xabier Galdeano, a Spanish Basque journalist.

Most of the black township victims were shot in back

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Seventeen of the 20 people killed by police in Langa township near Uitenhage on March 21 were shot in the back, the judicial inquiry into the events was told yesterday.

Details of their wounds, revealed by post-mortem, were handed as evidence to Mr Justice Donald Kannemeyer. It was the first time the death toll has been established as 20.

Evidence till now has been that 19 people were killed and more than 30 wounded when the police opened fire on a crowd of between 3,000 and 4,000 marching blacks on the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre in which 69 people died. An inquiry into the Sharpeville shootings also revealed that more than 50 of those who died were shot in the back.

Of the 20 people killed in Langa, 17 sustained shotgun wounds and three suffered bullet wounds. Fourteen were teenagers, nine of them under 16 and the youngst was a girl aged 11. The others, apart from a man aged 50, were in their 20s.

An ambulance driver told the Judge there was a 20-minute discrepancy between the time he had said in an affidavit that ambulances reached the scene of the shootings and that recorded in an official logbook.

Mr P D Lombard of the Uitenhage divisional ambulance service, admitted under cross-examination that the delay could have been fatal for some of the wounded.

Asked how the discrepancy occurred, Mr Lombard said: "That I can't answer."

The post-mortems were carried out by official police district surgeons for the area. Two of them, Dr Ivor Lang and Dr Benjamin Tucker, treated Steve Biko, the Black Consciousness leader who died while in the hands of the security police in 1977.

In January, the Pretoria Supreme Court ordered the South African Medical and Dental Council to hold an inquiry into their treatment of Mr Biko on the ground that there was prima facie evidence of disgraceful professional conduct.

Walkabout boost for new-look Gorbachov

From A Correspondent, Moscow

The Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, has introduced a Russified version of the Western politician's "walkabout" as part of his new approach to the previously staid business of running the country.

His visits to a lorry factory, a hospital, a school and to the flat of an "ordinary" young Muscovite couple, apparently in a single, whirlwind tour on Wednesday, were trumpeted by the Press, radio and television. It was all in marked contrast to the rare, heavily stage-managed public appearances of his ailing and elderly predecessors.

Mr Gorbachov displayed a keen eye for Western-style publicity on his visit to Britain in December, and even more so during a trip to Canada a year ago when he was still a relatively obscure figure.

His meet-the-people tour of Moscow was restrained by the standards of American, or even British, politicians. Television showed still pictures rather than film footage and *Pravda* and *Izvestia* had reports consisting largely of identical accounts of his conversations, apparently centring on the need for greater productivity and more labour discipline, rather than the price of a packet of tea or shopfloor working conditions.

But then Mr Gorbachov, who is almost certain of unanimous election as President when the Supreme Soviet meets in June, is not campaigning for votes, at least not among workers on the streets of Moscow.

Whether his change of approach, evident also in the publication of his blunt criticism of industrial managers, will mean a change of style of government and eventually a change of style of life in the Soviet Union, will take time to show.

Soviet citizens, shown pictures of Mr Gorbachov in a cowboy hat during his Canadian tour, look slightly worried and mutter about Khrushchev and banging shoes on tables (remembering his gesture at the United Nations), and invite one to "look where it got him".

So far Mr Gorbachov seems too smooth a politician for such melodramatic gestures. But he has brought new life, and at least the expectation of the unexpected, into a realm of political activity normally marked by extreme formality in public, and closed doors everywhere else.

Malaysian TV apology over Golda Meir film

Kuala Lumpar (Reuter) – Malaysia's commercial television channel has apologized for showing an uncensored film on the late Israeli Prime Minister, Mrs Golda Meir.

The station said on the air it regretted screening an episode of the US made series *Against the odds* which also covered the creation of Isreal and said it had been taken by mistake from a batch not seen by the censorship board.

The Government of pro-Arab Malaysia, where Islam is the official religion, forbids the screening, portrayal or musical representation of anything about Israel or of Jewish origin.

Navy kills 27 Tamils in a boat

Colombo – Twenty seven Tamil youths were killed and five were captured when the Sri Lankan Navy sank a boat taking them to Tamil Nadu for guerrilla training, the state radio said.

The captured youths admitted belonging to the rebel Tamil Tigers, the biggest Tamil separatist group, the radio said.

Gulf victim

Vienna (Reuter) – An Iranian soldier, flown from the Gulf war front with injuries which an Austrian doctor said were caused by a chemical weapon, died in hospital in Linz, Iran's embassy here said.

Sub project

(AFP) – The United States and Israel are planning joint construction of submarines and advanced missile-launching patrol boats for the Israeli Navy, the US Navy Secretary Mr John Lehman, said here.

Money-saver

Brussels (Reuter) – Belgium is considering pulling several hundred soldiers out of Nato's front-line forces in West Germany as an economy measure, defence sources said.

Death crash

Delhi (AP) – Two passenger buses collided near Sangrur in Punjab state, killing 14 people and seriously injuring 40 others, United News of India reported.

China quake

Peking (AFP) – An earthquake rocked Kunming in South-west China, residents reported.

Heart man's wife tells of trauma

Louisville, Kentucky (AP) – Mr William Schroeder's wife says her husband might have decided against receiving an artificial heart had he known how difficult it would be on the family.

"Bill thought he'd either die or be better," Mrs Margaret Schroeder told *Life* magazine. "If he had anticipated the hardship this has been on the family, he might not have done it."

Some of the material from *Life's* May cover story appeared in yesterday's *Louisville Courier-Journal*.

The *Life* article, entitled "Bill's heart, the trouble story behind a historic experience", results from an exclusive agreement between the Schroeders and the magazine for an undisclosed sum.

A series of strokes and other medical problems caused Mr Schroeder, aged 53, to remain in hospital longer than expected.

Mrs Schroeder said the family accepted her husband's recovery would be limited.

Tebbit tour of Japan

Union rank-and-file praised for realism

From David Watts, Tokyo

The big change in British trades unions is the refusal of memberships to take orders from leaders with political motives, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary for Trade and Industry, said in Japan yesterday.

"The trades unions in Britain are becoming much more realistic", he told a press conference. "I did mention to one or two ministers here that last year in Europe there were two major strikes in the motor vehicle industry. One was in Germany and one France. There were no major strikes in the automobile industry in the United Kingdom".

Recalling the £1 million advertising campaign against new laws restricting trade union power which he had introduced in Parliament, he said it had included a lot of criticism of him personally.

"This year I have been invited to the conference of one major trades union and to a meeting at which I shall open a new headquarters facility for another of our major trades unions.

"So there has been a considerable change in attitude, not on my part, but on the part of the trades unions concerned," he said adding that he had always thought trades union memberships moderate.

Mr Tebbit was introduced by the Japanese host at the Japan National Press Club as "one of the top new leaders to succeed Mrs Thatcher". Mr Tebbit thanked his host for his remarks, adding: "I didn't know there was a vacancy and I don't think she's been told about it either".

The two principle themes of Mr Tebbit's visit have been to encourage more Japanese investment in Britain and purchases of high tech items and encourage Japanese moves to open its markets and financial system.

He welcomed the market opening package of the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, who on April 9 called on the Japanese to consider the Europeans as well as Americans in formulating their policies, and warned against the dangers of growing protectionism in the US.

Kyprianou to accept the UN deal

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

Under daunting domestic and international pressure, President Spyros Kyprianou of Cyprus has privately informed the United Nations of his acceptance of a comprehensive peace package for the reunification of the island. It is hoped that the move will breathe new life into the Cyprus negotiating process.

According to diplomatic sources, the acceptance by the Greek Cypriots is without reservation or condition. It refers to a nominally new text drafted by Señor Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, which is identical in substance to documentation presented for signature at the meeting between Mr Kyprianou and Mr Rauf Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader, in January.

That summit broke down after President Kyprianou expressed reservations or qualifications on almost every point in the draft while Mr Denktas stood ready to sign.

Señor Perez de Cuellar worked out a face-saving formula by consolidating three separate texts serving as documentation for the summit into one paper, this ostensibly sparing President Kyprianou the embarrassment of having to accept something that he had found impossible to support.

The new turn in the ardouous Cyprus peace process clearly places the onus on the Turkish Cypriots, who since January have enjoyed watching President Kyprianou wriggle uncomfortably amid a constitutional crisis at home.

But some quarters at the UN are concerned over the absence of an official statement in Nicosia announcing acceptance of the UN framework. They see the Greek Cypriots as still avoiding a choice while awaiting the Turkish Cypriot response.

Mr Denktas has vowed to resist UN efforts to bring him back to the negotiating table until the elections, due in June, in the north. But the hope at the UN is that the Turkish Cypriots, having had a taste of the rewards a conciliatory presentation can bring, will want to luxuriate in that image further.

Indonesian comments cause rift in Asean

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

New Indonesian statements on Vietnam and Cambodia are regarded by Thailand and foreign diplomats in Bangkok as revealing the most serious breach yet in the unified approach by the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

There has been no official comment but Thai officials are indicating they are "extremely irritated" by remarks of Indonesia's armed forces chief, General Benny Murdani. Commending a new military agreement he has reached with Vietnam, the general said there would be a broad programme of military co-operation between the two countries.

The Thais also see his comment that "Vietnam is well able to wipe out anti-Vietnamese resistance forces along the Thai border" as a sign that he wants them wiped out and as contradicting Indonesia's political policy which supports the resistance.

In western Cambodia, near the Thai border, Vietnamese artillery has been shelling guerrilla positions at Prey Chan, formerly Nong Chan, for the past four days. Thai guns fired back when shells fell inside Thailand.

Paris tries taxi-scooter to beat cars

From Diana Geddes, Paris

"Taxi-scooters" will soon be on the streets of Paris in a new attempt to beat the ever-worsening traffic.

After a six-month battle with the powerful lobby representing the city's 14,300 regular taxi drivers, M Daniel Poulain, a former motorcycle courier, has won permission to launch a fleet of 10, specially adapted Vespa "taxis" on a six-month experimental basis.

He will not be able to use the word "taxi", nor will he be able to ply for hire. Clients will have to contact the taxi-scooters by telephone. Fares have not been fixed, but are expected to be about two-thirds of a normal taxi tariff.

Each scooter will be equipped with three helmets of different sizes, plus disposable paper "bonnets" in the interests of hygiene. The passeger saddle will be separate from that that of the driver and will have a special backrest.

A recent poll showed that 70 per cent of the French public were attracted by the idea of taxi-scooters, largely, no doubt, because of the increasing difficulty of getting around Paris by car. Every year, jams get worse as more and more cars crowd into the capital, where there has been virtually no increase in the woefully inadequate parking space.

Nearly 1.5 million cars flow into the city every day. An estimated 100,000 fail to find space, so they park anywhere and anyhow, with a typical French disregard for who is being inconvenienced – two or even three deep in front of garage exits, on pavements, and not infrequently right in the middle of the road.

The city's traffic controllers are alarmed, but are at their wit's end to know what to do. Fines equivalent to between £10 and £20 no longer seem to be a deterrent. The "sabot", or wheel-clamp, has recently been introduced, but is not yet widespread. At present, the emphasis seems to be on increasing the number of cars towed away.

Three new car pounds have been opened, and a fourth will follow this summer.



Two-wheel cab: M Daniel Poulain with his first taxi-scooter at the Arc de Triomphe yesterday.

EEC rules out funds for Channel tunnel

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

There can be no EEC money to help build the Channel tunnel, the Commissioner for Transport, Mr Stanley Davis told the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday.

Mr Davis explained that this was because of the decision by France and Britain not to put up any public money for the project.

But he said that the Commission might be able to put some money towards studies of traffic forecasting and to help in research of new construction techniques which would be needed. There could also be help towards improving road and rail links to the tunnel.

Mr Edward Newman, the Labour MEP for Manchester Central, argued that the project would drain money and jobs away from the hardship areas of Britain and into the wealthy southeast.

But the British Labour group was almost alone in voting against a resolution by Parliament urging Britain and France to do everything to ensure that a decision to build the link was taken as soon as possible.

New Concordat comes a step nearer approval

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The Italian Senate is to consider a Bill introducing a new system of financial arrangements between church and state which won the Chamber's approval on Wednesday night after five false starts.

The Bill is one of two measures which provide details of financial matters in the revised Concordat. The new Concordat replaces the 1929 agreement between Mussolini and the Vatican and has been approved by both Houses. It requires only the final acceptance of these two provisions for it to be signed into law.

Five times this week the Chamber tried and failed to approve the financial document because of lack of a quorum. These absences were not seen as a protest against the measure but as a consequence of impending elections.

MPs preferred to spend time out of Rome in their constituencies for the drawing up of lists for the regional and local government contests in mid-May.

At the front in Afghanistan

Top Soviet war reporter killed

From A Correspondent, Moscow

The Soviet journalists' trade magazine *Zhurnalist* yesterday reported the deaths of one of Moscow's most lauded war correspondents in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan.

Major Valery Glezdenyev, aged 35, died on October 10 last year when his helicopter hit turbulence as he was setting off from Kabul on a reporting assignment with one of the airbourne detachment which regularly carry out commando raids against rebel strongholds in the hills of Afghanistan.

The report of his death was significant, not for its belatedness, but for its fulsome praise of his reporting of Soviet deeds of heroism in a conflict that is gradually becoming more of a topic for open discussion in Soviet life.

The obituary, written by a fellow war correspondent, Captain Sergei Dyshev, was effectively a manual for other Soviet journalists reporting the drawn-out conflict.

"Now you do not belong to yourself. Now you are a soldier, and only after that a correspondent," he said, detailing one of Glezdenyev's many sorties, this time alongside paratroops.

"Forms of heroism take various guises, but the essence is the same – self-sacrificing fulfilment of military or civil duty," he quoted from one of Glezdenyev's own despatches from the front, which bore colourful headlines such as "Hero's Fate", "Wolves Hunt at Night" or "Paratrooper's Bread".

As the Afghan conflict drags into its sixth year and more ordinary Russians inevitably become concerned, if only because of the experience of a distant cousin or a son's imminent call-up for military duty, the need for positive reporting from the front appears to have become apparent even to the Kremlin.

Men such as Glezdenyev have come to the forefront, not in the glamorous style of the American television reporters in Vietnam but as chroniclers of heroic deeds guaranteed to inspire.

The troops in Afghanistan are still referred to as a limited contingent", but the stress on their "heroic patriotic and international duty" has increased.

The standard Soviet war correspondent has none of the moral problems that faced, for example, those British reporters in the Falklands who strove for objectivity. Almost all are military officers in their own right and know their duty is to glorify their own side.

Glezdenyev's prime objective was to be the first to write of the exploits of a new hero, particularly one awarded the prestigious Hero of the Soviet Union, the top Russian military decoration.

There were 11,000 such awards in the Second World War. Although thee faces of heroes of the Soviet Union decorated in Afghanistan have adorned various magazine covers in the past two months, no figures have been published onn the number given in the conflict, and no reference to the fact that most are posthumous.

Aids infection rate in Britain rises fivefold

Atlanta (Reuter; AFP) – The number of British homosexual men infected with the virus responsible for Aids is at least five times higher than in 1982, medical researchers reported yesterday at an international Aids conference.

The results, reached by a team of nine scientists, indicated that at least 2,600 men in London have been affected.

When and whether those infected will actually develop Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome is not known because the virus can be present for years without showing symptoms.

The study used blood samples collected in March, 1982, and July, 1984, for homosexual and bisexual men. The researchers found that 10 of the 153 homosexuals, or 6.6 per cent, who had blood taken in 1982 showed evidence of Aids infection. Four of the 10 were from Britain. The rest were from Europe or north America.

Two years later, 33 of 153 homosexual, or 21.6 per cent, had signs of infection. This time, 26 were from Britain.

If the results are extended to London's homosexual population, "then as of July 1984 at least 2,600 homosexual men in London may have already been exposed to the virus" although most have not yet shown symptoms, they reported.

The actual number of infected man was probably higher because the researchers based their estimate on seven-year-old data.

If spread of the disease continues at the US rate more than 9,000 cases will appear in Britain within four years.

Meanwhile two Miami suburbs have a record precentage of Aids sufferers, according to a report published for the conference.

In the past 18 months, 30 cases had been diagnosed in Delle Glade and Pahokee.

هكذا من الأصل

Karami flies to Syria as militia claim they crushed 'Arafat plot'

From Robert Fisk
Beirut

After persuading its allies in West Beirut to crush the Sunni Muslim militia and its Palestinian guerrilla supportes, Syria yesterday set out to coax Mr Rashid Karami, the Lebanese Prime Minister, to withdraw his government's resignation.

Mr Karami, himself a Sunni, flew off to Damascus during the afternoon for talks about the future of the national coalition Cabinet in Beirut, unable to provide any assurance that security can be imposed on his capital city.

In Beirut yesterday, if fast became apparent that the brutal street fighting that cost 33 lives had been principally intended to wipe out out any renaissance of Mr Yassir Arafat's Fatah guerrillas movement in the Lebanese capital.

Pro-Syrian newspapers in Beirut proclaimed the slaughter a victory since Palestinians loyal to Mr Arafat had formed an alliance with the Morabitoun. "Beirut, which has always triumphed over conspiracies, has foiled the Arafat plot, which was aimed . . . also at Syria and its role in Lebanon," the pro-Syrian *As-Sharq* newspaper said yesterday morning.

If the editorial seemed a trifle unctuous, the results of the carnage in Beirut made it seem cynical as well. At least 17 of the dead are believed to have been Palestinians, including civilians with no guerrilla connections.

Gunmen from the Shia Muslim or Druze militias, for example, failed to find one Arafat PLO sympathizer in their sweep through west Beirut, so seized his wife and son instead, summarily "executing" them outside their home.

Many of the Shia Mualim Amal and Druze Progressive Socialist Party gunmen went on a rampage of looting in the Sakiet el-Janzir neighbourhood, but this did not prevent Mr Nabih Berri, the Amal leader – who is also Minister of Justice – from announcing that an "uprising" had been under way in Beirut, "capitalizing . . . on the presence of aliens and guests in Beirut".

In Lebanon, where words generally carry more than one meaning, this was a clear reference to Mr Arafat's Palestinian guerrillas, who are fiercely opposed to Syria's influence.

The bloody events of the past two days, therefore, may in due course reap their own reward from Mr Arafat's men. In the meantime, Syria's domination of Beirut – even if it has been diminished by the Phalangist mutiny in the Christian east of the city – has at least been re-confirmed in the Muslim west.

Those most vaguely associated with the Sunni militia that supports Mr Arafat are among those who have most to fear. In Rue Hani yesterday, shops owned by Sunni Muslims which merely happened to have the Morabitoun slogan spray-painted on their walls, were attacked by gunmen firing exploding bullets.

Mr Karami, who is intensely aware that the Sunnis look to him for protection and succour, can offer little help, inwittingly involved as he is in a far more ruthless power struggle between Syria and the pro-Arafat Palestinians.

In the Palestinian refugee camps yesterday, there was considerable tension between Palestinians and the Amal militiamen who have been guarding the areas since the multinational force left last year.

Gunmen kidnap top university official

Mr George Sayegh, the American University of Beirut's acting vice-president for administration, was kidnapped early yesterday from his home in West Beirut. Gunmen broke into his apartment in the Chouran neighbourhood shortly after midnight and took him away.

Chouran was one of several neighbourhoods affected by the latest fighting in Beirut. The university appealed for the release of Mr Sayegh, who is in his late 40s. He suffers from heart trouble and continuously needs medication. He is a Greek Orthodox Christian, who was born in the port of Tripoli and grew up in Beirut.



An anti-tour protest by 800 people outside the Wellington hotel where the New Zealand Rugby Union met.

Khartoum tries to placate the South

From Paul Vallely
Khartoum

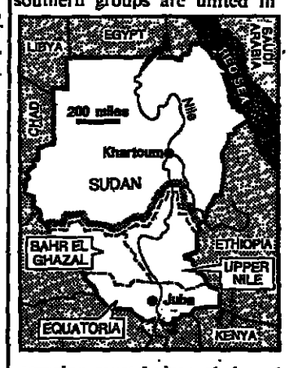
The leader of Sudan's military government, General Swar-al-Dahab, last night offered a package of concessions designed to win the support of the many disparate groups of southerners who are now the chief stumbling block to the formation of civilian administration during the twelve month transition to free elections.

But the announcement seems likely to harden the resolve of the southerners who are still withholding their consent to the list of civilians proposed for the new Council of Ministers by the alliance of trade unions and political parties.

The general yesterday officially confirmed his offer to cancel the decree by President Nimeiry which sparked off the civil war between the Muslim north and the mainly Christian south 14 years ago by dividing the south into three separate regions, Upper Nile, Equator and Bahr-al-Ghazar. He also promised, that during the transitional period the 1972 Addis Ababa accord which afforded self rule to the south would be implemented.

He said that a supreme committee, chaired by a senior army officer, would be set up for the three regions, and that a national conference with representatives from both north and south would be held to find a long term solution to the problem.

Prominent southerners in Khartoum were dissatisfied with the general's omissions. He made no mention of the future of Sharia law, which the many southern groups are united in agreeing must be repealed, and he did not increase the offer of seats available on the new Council of Ministers from three to five to be reserved for southerners.



There was also concern that the general had called for a "democratic" solution to the Sudan's southern problem which they feared might mean a national referendum in which the north would have an inbuilt majority of two to one.

The southerners active in the negotiations are also understood to object to the two candidates for the office of Prime Minister thought to have been nominated by the alliance. They are Dr Elguzoli Dafaalla, the chairman of the doctors union, and Mr Mirghani El-Nassri, the chairman of the Sudanese Bar Council.

Southerners claim that both would be biased towards the north. They are also demanding that one of the four main posts in the Cabinet should go to the south.

But the main omission is felt to be of any mention of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army and its leader Colonel John Garang who are popularly thought to be the most representative voice of the south. They have taken no part in any negotiations so far, though southern politicians in the capital claim that separate clandestine negotiations are underway.

Israelis jail three in terrorist plot

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv

Three more members of a Jewish terrorist ring were sentenced to prison terms by the district court in Jerulalem yesterday after plea bargains. Eight have now been given terms ranging from 14 months to 10 years and the prosecution of 17 others, including six charged with premeditated murder, continues.

Dan Beeri, aged 40, a French-born Catholic who converted to Judaism and became a recognized Torah scholar, was sentenced yesterday to three years' imprisonment. He was among a group who plotted to blow up the Dome of the Rock, the Muslim shrine on the Temple Mount.

Uri Maier was jailed for 30 months for attempting to plant a bomb in a car belonging to an Arab leader in Bethlehem. Yossi Edri was jailed for 25 months for transporting arms for the underground

● Mr Ezer Weizman returned to Jerusalem from his controversial mission to Egypt ad reported separately to the Prime Minister, who had encouraged the visit, and to the Foreign Minister, who had opposed it.

On his arrival at Ben Gurion airport, Mr Weizman said he was bringing home information and thoughts and he added diplomatically that Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, and mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, will decide what to do with it.

Mr Weizman, whose title is minister in the Prime Minister's office, said more preparation was needed for a summit between Mr Peres and President Mubarak and a committee of senior civil servants was working on it.

Senator: I wish I were an astronaut

From Mohsin Ali
Washington

Senator Jake Garn, the first politician to go into space, said in a televised press conference from the shuttle Discovery yesterday that if he was younger he would rather be an astronant than a senator.

Appearing with the six other crew members, the 52-year-old Republican senator from Utah said: "If I were about 10 years younger, I would choose being a working astronaut over being a senator so fast it would make your head spin."

The crew, which includes a woman astronaut and physician, Dr Rhea Seddon, stood together like a school class posing for a yearbook picture. They held forth on the success and failures of their seven-day mission which ends early today when the space shuttle returns to the Kennedy Space Centre at Cape Canaveral.

The crew, who yesterday were receiving a telephone call from President Reagan failed on Wednesday to salvage a disabled communications satellite, which was to be used by the US Navy.

Senator Garn in the press conference described the rescue effort as a "remarkable performance." to see the space ship rendezvous with the 15,200lb slowly spinning satellite was "just a masterful job."

He had special praise for Dr Seddon's efforts to switch on a small lever on the side of the satellite with a makeshift extension to the shuttle's Canadian-built 50ft robot arm. But though she hit the activation switch several times it did not move. The satellite remained dormant and ground control told the crew to give up.

Senator Garn, who heads a congressional sub-committee overseeing millions of dollars of funding for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa), waxed ecstatic about his participation in the flight. He defended it against criticism

"I will guarantee the people that out of this trip there will be many, many times more money saved as a result of my insight into the inner processes of Nasa than it ever cost to send me, whatever that figure is."

Australia backs mandatory sanctions after sports row

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Bill Hayden, Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, said yesterday that his Government would vote for mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa at the UN Security Council, although they would not propose the move themselves.

His statement followed a strong condemnation of the proposed tour of South Africa by Australian cricketers who, Mr Hayden said, would be accepting "blood money" if they took up the invitation.

In another move, the Federal Government announced a voluntary code of conduct for Australian companies in South Africa. The code will seek to force companies to guarantee equal wages, conditions and promotion chances for non-white workers.

The code is the fourth recommendation from the Cabinet's review of Australia's relations with South Africa and follows restrictions on civil aviation, sporting contacts and a ban on the sale of military equipment.

Strasbourg demands release of Mandela

A thinly attended session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg voted by 63 to 40 yesterday in favour of a wide range of sanctions against South Africa (Ian Murray writes).

The proposed moves include an end to investment, a gradual reduction in commercial contacts, an arms embargo, suspension of cultural and sporting links and the release of Mr Nelson Mandela. It also urged consideration of a ban on the import of Krugerrands, oil exports and coal imports.

In Wellington the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, said he was outraged at the Rugby Union's decision to send the All Blacks to South Africa which had made New Zealand "part of the armoury of apartheid".

He said he would write to Commonwealth heads of government saying hs Administration opposed the tour but was powerless to stop it.

Mr Lange said the rugby council had broken its word in rejecting a direct government instruction to abandon the tour.

Earlier Mr Ces Blazey, the Rugby Union chairman, hinted that he would reconsider the tour if he thought the national team was in danger. He told a radio interviewer: "If we had real reason to believe that there was danger to our players, then of course we'd take notice of it."

Help for cricketers, page 28

Anger at cemetery visit

Blunder dents Reagan image

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

What was intended as a symbolic gesture of reconciliation between twoformer wartime foes has turned into a significant embarrassment for President Reagan.

His impulsive decision to lay a wreath at the German military cemetery at Bitburg when he pays a state visit to West Germny next month has already seriously damaged the President's reputation among American Jews and could, if he heeds the demand of 53 senators to call it off, also undermine US relations with its main European ally.

The uncharacteristic bungling by the White House of the kind of media event at which it normally excels has also eroded President Reagan's reputation as a public relations maestro.

The White House has been unusually slow and inept in trying to limit the damage. "In the past we would have pulled the plug immediately," one official said. "But we still have not got this one under control."

Mr Michael Deaver, the White House Deputy Chief of Staff, who has been responsible for planning the President's trip, was still in Germany yesterday considering which concentration camp sites the President might visit.

However, American Jews had already been distressed by the President's decision not to visit Dachau. This turned to fury when it was revealed last week that he would instead lay a wreath at the Bitburg cemetery, where SS members are buried.

Mr Deaver is expected to advise against calling off the Bitburg ceremony; even though this is strongly opposed by American veterans organizations, which have pointed out that the Germans buried there took part in the Battle of the Bulge during which 19,000 Americans died.

If the Bitburg visit goes ahead, the White House will have to deal with television cameras panning from the President to tombstones of Nazi SS officers.

The whole controversy was caused by President Reagan's laudableecision that the 40th anniversary of Nazi Germany's surrender should be symbolized by a spirit of reconciliation, rather than a glorification of past victories.

He also wanted to make amends for last year's snubbing of Chancellor Kohl who was excluded from the 40th anniversary celebrations of the D-Day landings.

When Chancellor Kohl suggested, at the end of last year, that President Reagan should visit a military cemetery containing the graves of German and American war dead, Mr Reagan readily agreed.

Bitburg was chosen for logistical and political reasons. It is near a US Air Force base, which meant that the President could stay within the compound – an advantage for security and telecommunications. It is also in Mr Kohl's home state, the Rhineland-Palatinate.

The fact that no American war dead were buried at Bitburg but the cemetery contained the graves of some 30 SS men seems to have escaped White House planners' attention – or they felt this was unimportant.

This fact only emerged publicly last week during a briefing in Santa Barbara, California, where the President was on holiday, on his forthcoming trip to Europe.

Leading article, page 13

Namibia delay blamed on West

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

A three-day meeting of ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) opens in Delhi today and will hand out a verbal caning to South Africa over Namibia.

The draft declaration which was considered by officials yesterday says that the Western contact group, consisting of the US, Britain, France, West Germany and Canada, is "answerable" for the lack of progress towards implementation of the UN plan for the region's independence.

In the words of Mr Johnie Makatini, international director of the African National Congress, South African blacks expect the Non-aligned Movemennt t "regain the situation which was hijacked by the contact group."

"The non-aligned meeting takes place against the background of the plan for a transitional government being prepare by South Africa for Namibia. "This would be a sort of UDI," said Mr Natarajan Krishnan, India's Ambassador to the UN.

He added that the internal parties being used by South Africa to set up a multi-party government "are to be seen as unrepresentative, Quisling or puppet parties." The Non-Aligned Movement recognizes Swapo as the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people.

The draft declaration, drawn up by Mr Krishnan and his colleagues, expresses grave concern over South Africa's attempt to impose an internal settlement. "Pretoria's attempts to install the so-called Multi-Party Conference at the head of an interim central government in Windoek are of a piece with its unceasing transgressions of United Nations resolutions and decisions," the declaration says.

It calls on the Security Council to meet again and resolutely carry out its responsibilities "including the imposition of appropriate enforcement measures." It calls for comprehensive mandatory sanctions, and piously hopes that the Western permanent members of the Council "who have shielded South Africa from sanctions in the past will display the necessary political will".

Pending the imposition of mandatory sanctions the meeting will call on United Nations members to sever all links with South Africa, including an oil embargo, disinvestment, withdrawal of overflight rights, prohibition of Krugerrand sales, and strict observance of the sports and cultural boycott.

The announcement that the New Zealand Rugby Union intends to go ahead with its tour of South Africa has caused some dismay, but officials have been at pains to separate Mr David Lange's Government from blame. Mr Makatini said yesterday that the action they take should be such as would strengthen Mr Lange's hand.

"We have been watching that situation very closly," Mr Makatini said. "We have seen a big change in the attitude of this New Zealand government and the previous one."

The meeting will be opened by the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. Today is also the 25th anniversary of the founding of Swapo, and special functions will provide an opportunity from tributes to the organization and its leader, Mr Sam Nujoma.

Kohl warms a little to Star Wars

From Frank Johnson
Bonn

Chancellor Kohl of West ermany, yesterday made the ost favourable speech he has elivered so far on America's trategic Defence Initiative, so known as Star Wars. But he opped short of committing est Germany whole-hearted-

The speech contained a ublic hint of the private dignation he has reportedly en expressing about the letter e US Secretary of Defence, r Caspar Weinberger, sent to est Germany, and other nerican allies on March 26, king them to say within 60 ys whether they wanted to e part in research on the issile-defence system. Herr hl said: "The federal governnt will in the foreseeable ure take its decision whether take part in the US research ject. In taking this decision it l not allow itself to be put der pressure. Instead it will pare all the necessary inforion on which it will make its ision."

n the months of controversy un Star Wars, Herr Kohl has ided committing himself. he has allowed the impression to be given that he bts SDI could ever be as ctive as President Reagan es and is worried about the danger it poses to an arms control agreement with the Soviet Union, but none the less believes that there may be rich technological gains for West German industry.

This remained his position yesterday, although he put more emphasis than before on his hopes that the European allies could agree a joint approach. he also reflected what seems to be the growing fear of the West Germans that the Americans might not allow them access to the most profitable technology.

Herr Kohl said that "fair partnership and free exchange of information must be guaranteed. There must be no technological one-way street. We must, as far as possible, have our own areas of research and influence. We must be allowed to influence the whole project. To this end, German experts would be visiting the United States for talks".

Herr Kohl, who was addressing a parliamentary debate on SDI, had a word for the Social Democratic opposition which is, on the whole, against the project.



A word in your ear: Chancellor Kohl and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Foreign Minister (left) during the debate.

Congress to vote on Contra funds

Beleagured President looks for compromises

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Faced with solid Congressional resistance, President Reagan is exploring possible compromises on his request to resume financing the four-year US-backed guerrilla war against Nicaragua.

He remains adamant on the principle of the argument – that the guerrilla army offers the best chance of forcing the Sandinistas to moderate their ways. The debate among his advisers now centres on whether he should, for the moment, seek funds merely for "humanitarian" assistance of the guerrillas and their families.

In the longer term, the Administration is planning to press for far more than the current request for $14 million (£11 million) for the rebels. According to one Republican source, President Reagan will seek $28 million in military aid in the next budget.

The crucial Senate and house votes on the President's request are both due on Tuesday, although that could change. On present showing, Mr Reagan would lose by 30 votes in the Democrate-controlled House. The Senate vote is too close to predict.

Administration officials were taken aback yesterday to learn that President Luis Monge of Costa Rica had saied he opposed renewed US military aid to the Nicaraguan rebels. Earlier this week, in talks at the White House and with senior Administration officials, he left the clear impression that he was fully behind Mr Reagan's policy.

Mr William Webster, director of the FBI, acknowledged in evidence to a House sub-committee that agents had interviewed US citizens returning from visits to Nicaragua – a practice described by some critics yesterday as "intimidating". Mr Webster said the interviews were for legitimate "foreign counter-intelligence".

Mr Reagan, who continued to campaign hard for the Contras' funds yesterday, claimed on Wednesday that the Pope "has been most supportive of all our activities in Central America".

Asked if thata included military aid, he replied: "I am not going into detail, but *all* our activities".

The Pope's Ambassador to the US Archbiship Pio Laghi, refuted the claim. He said the Pope did not support military aid. "We excluded the possibility of his support or endorsement of any concrete plan dealing in particular with military aspects," he said. ends must pars

Missile freeze supported by Romania

From John Best
Ottawa

President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania has concluded a four-day state visit to Canada with a strong endorsement of the Soviet call for a freeze on missile deployment in Europe.

The Romanian leader flew home from Montreal on Wednesday after touring a nuclear power station on the St Laurence River and having lunch with Mr Jean Drapeau, the Mayor of Montreal.

Canadian officials said that in conversations with the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, Mr. Ceausescu described the freeze as a "positive gesture" and suggested that the United States should reciprocate it.

He repeated the call at a banquet given by Canada's Governor-General, Mrs Jean Sauvé, describing the Soviet move as "highly positive" and adding: "We hope that these proposals and measures will draw an adequate reaction from the United States too."

The Canadian view as expressed to Mr Stefan Andrei, Romania's Foreign Minister, by his Canadian opposite number, Mr Joe Clark, is that a mutual freeze would perpetuate the advantage in medium-range forces now enjoyed by the Russians.

Cable news chief bids in battle for CBS

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Mr Ted Turner, the television entrepreneur, made his expected takeover bid for the giant CBS broadcasting, recording and publishing empire yesterday. But Wall Street analysts remained sceptical of his ability to raise the money.

CBS, which runs the country's largest television network and is the world's largest producer of recorded music, with revenues of nearly $5 billion (£3.94 billion) last year, said it was determined to fight and remain independent.

Mr Turner announced his takeover offer by filing papers with the Federal Communications Commission. In a complex financial package he offered CBS stockholders £2.9 billion (£2.28 billion) worth of shares and other securities in his Turner Broadcasting Systems (TBS) of which he owns 87 per cent. In exchange he wants 21 million CBS shares, 67 per cent of the company.

He said he would concentrate on broadcasting and would sell off CBS's non-broadcasting interests, which include a major publishing operation. He would retain Cable News Network (CNN) his successful 24-hour news channel.

Mr Turner, who is 46, started in business selling billboard advertising space. He has made no secret of his long-held desire to own a big television network.

For the past four months CBS has been the target of right-wing groups who have urged conservatives to buy CBS shares and help end what they term the network's "liberal bias" in its news presentation.

At the company's annual meeting in Chicago this week, Mr Thomas Wyman, the chairman, said that he did not think Mr Turner was "moral enough" to run the network.

Le Pen loses libel suit

Paris – M Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the French National Front, has lost his libel action against the satirical weekly, the *Canard Enchainé*, which published articles accusing him of torturing suspected terrorists during the Algerian civil war (Diana Geddes writes).

The presiding judge in the Paris court hearing the ruled that the articles constituted neither an attack on M Le Pen's honour nor his reputation, that the newspaper had acted in good faith, and that there was therefore no case to answer. The truth of the allegations was not examined.

M Le Pen was ordered to pay the *Canard Enchainé's* legal expenses.

THE ARTS

Cinema

Fascinating view of Americanism

The Falcon and the Snowman (15)
Odeon Haymarket

Choose Me (15)
Screen on the Hill

Number One (15)
Classic Haymarket

The Falcon and the Snowman is a cheering arrival from an American cinema which has increasingly become the reserve of high technology and low intelligence. Instead of the step-by-step comic-strip style of the average current screenplay, Steven Zaillian's adaptation of Robert Lindsey's original book is skilful and thoughtful; instead of meretricous special effects, John Schlesinger's direction invests taste, intelligence, craftsmanship, visual flair and an ensemble of excellent performances.

The story is closely based on fact, which is generally less tractable and credible than fiction. The real-life story, recorded by Lindsey in his role as newsman, is that Christopher Boyce and Andrew Daulton Lee were given maximum prison sentences by the Federal courts in 1977 for selling security information to Soviet espionage agents in Mexico.

As represented in the film, the two young men, friends since childhood, are an oddly matched couple. Boyce (Timothy Hutton), having left the seminary in a state of spiritual doubt, lands a maximum-security job in a private firm doing work for the US Government and the CIA. Lee (Sean Penn), desperately compensating for his personality problems, is a flamboyant drug-dealer ("snowman") rather the worse for his own wares. Boyce's muddled sense of morality, stirred by outrage at the CIA's international dirty tricks activities, leads him to leak secrets – neither well kept nor particularly significant. Lee's predicament as a fugitive from US narcotics agents makes him a willing, though unpredictable and inept, courier.

Schlesinger retains his sharp, fascinated outsider's view of America and Americans; of the global role of the US ("the only nation on earth that ever used atomic weapons on other human beings"); of the significance of patriotism and its shadings, from Lee's coke-hazed sentimentality to the my-country-right-or-wrong conviction of Boyce's father; of the farce of a system where, behind the outward pomp of top security officialdom, the document-shredder doubles as a cocktail-mixer; of the sordid perils of the drug scene; of the blinkered, self-satisfied conformism of the well-to-do middle class which is a natural provocation to rebellion in their children.

The character of Boyce, with his seminary airs and intellectual confusion, adds a new dimension to Timothy Hutton's gallery of sensitive teenagers; Sean Penn makes Lee a poor, ratty thing, veering from transparently fake bravado to blubbering collapse. David Suchet's suave and sophisticated KGB man (clearly Armenian or Georgian rather than Russian of Moscow), running rings round the naive American tyros, is an original and believable variation on the conventional Soviet spy.

The film at present runs 131 minutes, but there are symptoms to suggest that it might have suffered cutting at a late stage: Boyce's girlfriend appears rather arbitrarily, for instance, while some plot business involving the Russians' interference in Lee's hotel arrangements remains enigmatic; and there are additional signs that Boyce's motivation might once have been more closely explored.

Alan Rudolph, a Robert Altman apprentice, revealed an original talent and not unsympathetically pretentious ambitions in *Welcome to L.A.* and *Remember My Name*. (I have not seen his intervening films, *Roadie* and *Endangered Species*, which has not been theatrically released in this country.) **Choose Me** is an engaging piece of artifice set in a Los Angeles that is distilled to a few essential locations – a couple of over-decorated Californian apartments, a hospital corridor, a bar and the street outside it, a radio studio. Even the exteriors have been given the appearance of painted sets by Jan Kiesser's moody photography.

In this theatre, Rudolph choreographs a playful artifice that lies somewhere between *La Ronde* and the sort of modern-dress scenarios that American ballet favoured thirty years or so ago. (The ballet connection is emphasized by Rudolph's persistent and intelligent use of music.) Nancy (Genevieve Bujold) gives advice on a radio phone-in show to a bar-owner, Eve (Lesley Ann Warren), who is loved by her barman but is having an affair with the sadistic Zack, who is married to Pearl, who falls for Mikey, the stranger in town, who awakens the sexuality of the frigid Nancy, who becomes the flatmate of Eve, who leaves Zack for Mikey . . . and so on, round and round.



Snowman and falcon: Sean Penn (left), Timothy Hutton

The complications are compounded by deceptions and false names; in the end it turns out that the only completely truthful person is Mikey the pathological liar – played by Keith Carradine with an allure which gives conviction to the excitement and disturbance he is supposed to bring to the lives of everyone else. His fellow players are as well matched to Rudolph's purposes: like Altman, the director has a gift of revealing behind the farce and artifice the essential pathos, solitude and anxieties of his apparently self-sufficient people.

A new British film, **Number One**, is the work of the director-writer team of Les Blair and G. F. Newman, who collaborated on two very successful four-film television series, *Law and Order* and *The Nation's Health*. This incursion into feature films shows up an essential weakness of Newman's writing: in a world where everyone is so repellent and corrupt, it hardly seems to matter – villians and police deserve each other, and that is that. By the same token, the low-life, four-letter dialogue which is Newman's forte loses its vigour through sheer lack of variation.

Number One follows a fairly familiar pattern for sports stories. The hero, Harry (Bob Geldof), is a genius at snooker, whose money troubles deliver him into the hands of a crooked bookie who nurses him into the big-time of the world championship. The rest can be more or less guessed. What is not so readily guessed, until it is intimated by some flighty end-titles, is that it is all intended as comedy rather than melodrama.

The only halfway likable character is Harry's prostitute girlfriend, but she conforms so predictably to the tart-with-a-heart stereotype that even Alison Steadman cannot give her reality. Most of the characters, indeed, are paper-thin. Harry's motivation, whether resisting the pressures to enter the big-time or, having turned bent professional experiencing a sudden access of ambition to play straight, is never comprehensible. Unconscionably robbing and deceiving his mistress and doing down everyone he can, Harry would be a singularly resistible hero but for the playing of Bob Geldof. Geldof (of the Boomtown Rats) turns out a responsive, skilful and attractive actor whose performance retrieves something at least for the film.

David Robinson

Theatre

Keen attention fast dispelled

The Archbishop's Ceiling
Royal, Bristol

For novice visitors to the Soviet block, the first things that catch the eye are the exuberant buildings – creations of absolute monarchies or an all-powerful church – that are now the property of the state. Such is the starting-point of Arthur Miller's play. Its location is a mansion in an East European capital, formerly an archiepiscopal residence and now an open house where visiting writers are entertained by Marcus, a favoured author of the regime.

They meet in the sitting room under a baroque ceiling, and the dramatic possibilities of that setting are immediately apparent. The heavily-ornamented ceiling is probably bugged. It also represents the all-seeing eye of God. The authors who assemble there, all watching each other, are writing books about their shared mistress – Maya – who is suspected of organizing orgies for the betrayal of foreign intelligentsia. Everyone, in short, from the almighty to the security police, is spying on everyone else; and in the original version of the play Miller even added the element of voyeuristic pornography ("the most serious subject there is"), and bound political and sexual surveillance together in a line from Maya's husband: "It is a profound human thing . . . to watch forbidden, secret acts".

The Archbishop's Ceiling had its first performance in Washington in 1977, after which Miller withdrew the text for revision prior to its re-appearance in Cleveland last year and its European premiere in Bristol. The role of the husband has been cut from the new version, along with all reference to pornography; and what remains amounts to a severe curtailment of the theme's potential.

As in *Incident at Vichy*, Miller locates the moral conscience of the West in Europe, but as an American he modestly refrains from any act of judgement. The country is unspecified, the regime has its good as well as its bad points, and in any case the West is in no position to assume superiority. The self-effacement of an outsider who knows the East mainly through PEN conferences blurs every issue except the idea that writers ought to be allowed to publish without reprisal.

So far as dramatic interest goes, the play simply tells the story of Sigmund, whose allegedly wonderful manuscript has been seized by the authorities in reprisal for a letter criticizing the government which he has written to the United Nations. Debate on this rash act and his impending trial proceeds at length between Maya, the fence-sitting Marcus and an American author, until the glad news arrives that the manuscript has been returned.

In spite of all claims made on its behalf there is no idea of what this document might contain, nor of the impact – if any – it is likely to have on the powers that be. In the early scenes, characters periodically quit the sitting room for bursts of conspiratorial plain-speaking and then resume their places under the ceiling to put on an official performance for the unseen spies. As it is never established whether the room is bugged, this device dramatically embodies the power of the state to enforce self-censorship. But, alas, the device is short-lived, and by the second act characters are conversing with no fear of eavesdroppers. The play, in short, arouses keen attention and rapidly dispels it.

Paul Unwin's production has the advantage of two performances, from Maureen O'Brien and Alan Dobie (Marcus), that convey unspeakable appearances under the guarded dialogue. The ceiling, first visible as a curtain before closing back into the set, is the splendid creation of Su Bentinck.

Irving Wardle

Viva!
Stratford East

Everyone has left on the last flight out of the Central American Republic of Puerto de Oro – everyone, that is, except for the CIA's local fixer and a plucky blonde reporter from Radio Portsmouth, who finds herself stranded with a change of knickers and O-level Spanish. "The world's media", she observes, "has fled."

And no wonder, for this republic is going bananas. Left-wing guerrillas have ringed the capital, the US Embassy has closed for business, and one of the two air force planes that remain loyal has bombed the presidential palace by mistake, forcing the incumbent to take refuge in the Inter-Continental Hotel.

As the curtain rises, Saul Radomsky's set gets a round of applause which it richly merits. His hotel lobby is a marble madhouse hung with fake Aztec gold masks whose eyes and mouths glow turquoise; the lift doors are a garish sunburst of jewelled gold and even the call buttons are winking gems. A grandiloquent chandelier glitters threatingly above the stage.

From this point on, the evening goes into decline. Andy de la Tour, the new-wave comic whose first stage play this is, has clothed his promising idea with cumbersome development and plainly inert dialogue. Of course, in farce we expect everyone to be crazy, but we also expect the imbroglios which their craziness promotes to be fresh and funny.

Lumberingly, the thing *devolves*. The National Guard surround the hotel. The archbishop scuttles in and out with bundles of currency. The President arrives with his dead father in a coffin. The CIA man outlines his scheme to take him into exile and replace him with a spuriously populist triumvirate. A soldier loses his trousers. There is lots of business with the lift. The hotel manager tries to blow up his own hotel.

Roger Smith's production has Tom Wilkinson flinging himself around to little effect as the "Company" representative, and John Forgeham swaggering through his part as the stock Latin-American general.

Martin Cropper

Opera

Don Giovanni
Theatre Royal, Glasgow

To follow Welsh National Opera's *Don Giovanni and the Phallic Symbol*, here is Scottish Opera's *Don Giovanni and the Wrong Box*. Graham Vick's outrageous but very gripping rewriting of the opera – if this is a harbinger of what to expect now he is Director of Production, then Glasgow is in for some stimulating evenings – is obsessed with coffins.

On a totally black stage the first thing we see is the blinding white outline of a coffin. On top of a coffin-bed Don Giovanni and Anna fight; in it the Commendatore's body is dumped. Don Giovanni eats off it, and escapes from his pursuers in it; the Commendatore lies in state in it, and finally it returns to beckon Giovanni to his fate.

But what is his fate? Vick's often acutely musical perception (Anna's relenting in the supposed rape scene, Don Giovanni's hands forced together in prayer by the Commendatore, are both good details) allows an ambiguity about death and sex just as does Mozart's score.

Vick is more blatant than Mozart: this Commendatore gets out of his coffin at once, and passes his murderer in the street. He manipulates the whole cemetery scene, and his appearance at the final meal is thus no surprise. The surprise is (perhaps if you are going to see this production you should read no further) that the death to which he calls Don Giovanni is finally denied to the villain.

Giovanni beats at the coffin door, but in a final scene which is both perverse and enlightening his punishment (*Il dissoluto punito* is da Ponte's title) is not death but utter despair: to see his would-be lovers happy with their spouses, to see the world go on without him and return to normal.

This extraordinary affair takes place in a bleak setting of metal ladders and walls on which are daubed white slogans about the opera by continually distracting painters (is this an economy attempt at surtitles?). The flashes of colour are mostly provided by the Italian wedding party of Zerlina and Masetto, out of *Saturday, Sunday, Monday*. Oh yes, this is Italy – after all, they all sing Italian – and Sergei Leiferkus's fetching Don Giovanni reads the *Corriere*, dresses nattily and continually washes his hands in a Pilate-like manner. He sings elegantly, too, though without quite enough sheer force, and he knows that within the sofa of Zerlina's wedding present there lies a sofa-bed suitable for seduction.

Willard White's Leporello is a splendidly surly creation, who keeps girlie pics of his master's conquests to show to Karita Mattila's Elvira. Hers is a most striking voice, not yet quite under control; she first turns up as a nun in sunglasses but finishes as an English tourist with protective shawl.

Rather wilder of voice but very convincing is Kristine Ciesinski's Anna, taut and nervy, whom Anthony Roden's stodgy Ottavio can do little to console. Faith Elliott and John Best do not make as much of Zerlina and Masetto as the production suggests; Sir Alexander Gibson flails around in the pit with results which, especially in the ensembles, are not always satisfactory.

Nicholas Kenyon



Willard White, spendidly surly, showing his girlie pics to Karita Mattila

Dance

Moves Afoot
The Place

Since three of the five dancers in Moves Afoot, including the director Christopher Bannerman, are on sabbatical leave from London Contemporary Dance Theatre, there was a feeling of home-coming to the opening on Wednesday of their week in London. But the most important thing about their joint venture is that the programme was created during two months in Bristol, where they encouraged local interest with classes, workshops and open rehearsals; they are now taking it on the road.

The best of the evening, in choreography and dancing, comes from Celia Hulton. Her *Moon Sisters*, to music by George Crumb from *Makrokosmos* II and III, is a strange, compelling piece for herself and the other two women, Judy Harris and Jayne Lee. Beginning in a tight little nest of light, like blind chicks, they are gradually attracted outwards by light and sound.

As they grow up, however, they discover something about themselves, symbolized by the red linings and tights revealed when they pull up their long blue skirts, and this shameful secret acts divisively, although in the end unsuccessfully, against the sorority established by pat-a-cake ritual gestures and secret libations.

Hulton's dancing shines brightest in *Swing Away the Blues*, created by Bannerman to Duke Ellington recordings. Her heavy solo as a competitor in a commercial dance marathon is gripping, and in the lively, cheerful ensembles she is outstandingly unaffected.

Bannerman dances a short, slight solo made for him by Kenneth MacMillan, *Without Ceremony*, in which his wild gestures as an old-time boxer contrast comically with Bach's Little Fugue in G minor. The other two works are rather dire: a movement exercise for four dancers by Jayne Lee and a longish group dance, *River of Change*, by Bannerman in which the dancers imitate a glacier thawing. Eleanor Alberga's score of crystalline piano notes against a background of synthesized watery sounds is the best thing about this.

Presentation is assured, with costumes and lighting designed by students of the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School; Carolyn Lane's for *Moon Sisters* most successfully support the choreographic ideas. On the whole, however, ideas outrun invention; rarely if ever does the movement become exciting, and, although the better pieces are sensibly kept for the second half, there is no real climax.

John Percival

Concert

Philharmonia/Kamu
Festival Hall

The sacred enmity which existed in their lifetime between Rimsky-Korsakov and Tchaikovsky was forgotten for a while on Wednesday. Indeed, with such an intensely compelling performance of *Sheherazade* as Okko Kamu drew from the Philharmonia, it was impossible to believe Shostakovich's allegation that Rimsky was near-catatonic about composing until after Tchaikovsky's death.

Tchaikovsky, in fact, was the one who had more of a raw deal on Wednesday. There he stood, represented by his Violin Concerto, music which the critic Hanslick declared you could hear the stink of. For Nigel Kennedy, it seemed to be undiluted Otto of Roses: his performance had an old-world pall about it, heavy with portamento, long drawn back in ritenuto, and seamless with a cantabile which, in the first movement, deprived the score too often of breath and contour.

It was, of course, a *tour de force* – what performance dares not be? But, apart from the cadenza, in which Kennedy had time to pace and create a distinctive character for his playing, the work once again seemed to sit securely under his belt without ever having been made uniquely his own.

Back to *Sheherazade*, which sounded as if it had benefited from rather more rehearsal time. The symphonic suite with its kaleidoscopic story-telling thrives on a tight-rope balance of spacious rhythmic bouyancy and knife-edge detail. Mr Kamu, who is clearly very much in tune with the Philharmonia, achieved precisely this. His driving of each climactic phrase up to its cut-off point at start and finish was masterly, buttressed by tough horn playing and searing trumpet solos from John Miller.

Hilary Finch

● **Focus**, the United States organization that assists foreigners living in Britain, is to make its first literary awards next Thursday at the Warwick Arts Trust. The recipients will be Sir Angus Wilson (fiction), Bel Mooney (journalism) and Dr P. L. Travers (children's literature).

Television

Paws for thought

Unfortunately there is no shortage of programmes about pets, even though they tend to be concerned with the humans who own them. Star Paws (*Forty Minutes*, BBC2) tried a more glamourous approach by dealing with the little creatures who have established themselves in show business – although only the owners are star-struck.

Olive, the very model of a stage mother, breeds cats who will do practically anything in front of a camera, while the owner of a famous racehorse declared that he can take his animal to places other horses cannot travel. He was not more specific, and so one had an image of Red Rum in a telephone box or the Whispering Gallery of St Paul's.

The great advantage of animal actors, of course, is that like the characters in more human soap opera they are interchangeable and relatively dispensable: like the perpetually revolving Miss Ellie in *Dallas*, one cat looks very much like another. But some of them are stars nonetheless: one quadruped has now been registered as a limited company, for example, with a "turnover" (if that is the right expression) of over one million pounds a year. Some cannot command quite such high sums: Fritz, the miniature dachshund, is apparently famous only for his growling.

The Dulux dog is perhaps the best known of this strange advertising species, although it is unfortunate that such a remarkable breed should be identified merely with paint.

One of the disadvantages of capitalism is that it brands everything in its own image. The symbolism involved is equally vulgar: it seems that tigers are supposed to represent energy and purposefulness, although it is a mystery why such qualities should be associated with motor oil.

According to its owner, the Dulux dog symbolizes something "missing" from people's lives. The nature of this missing something was not made clear, and the programme provided no information on the matter. It is in fact a weakness of documentaries such as this that they provide pictures without commentary, speech without analysis. Since the process of editing is itself a form of authorial interpretation, it seems a little coy not to provide a more robust or at least more open message.

Peter Ackroyd

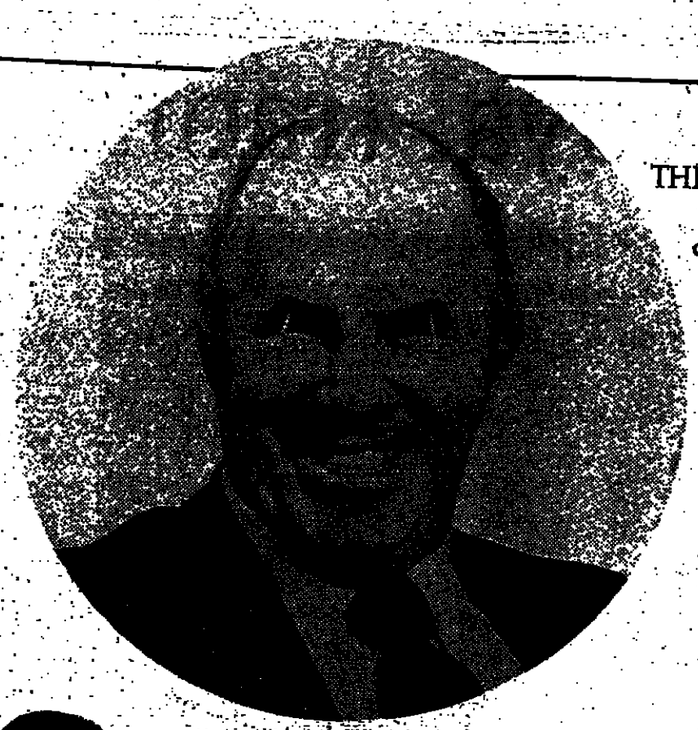






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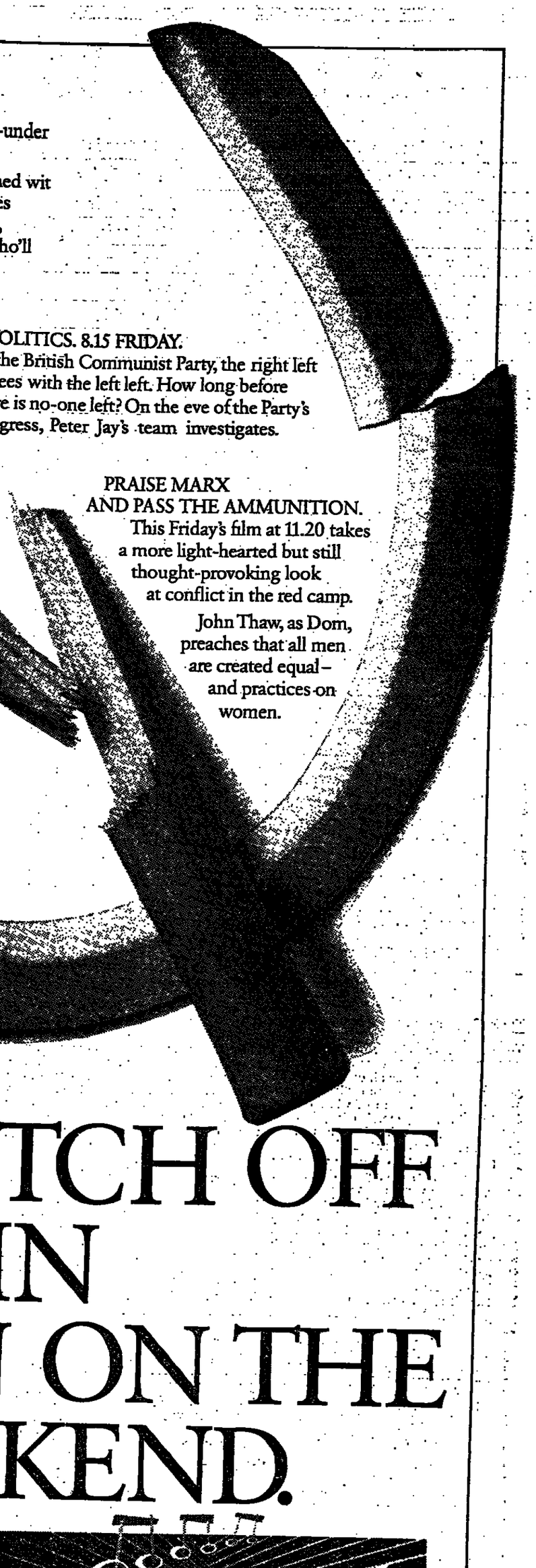


THE LATE CLIVE JAMES.
The well-mannered fellow from down-under comes wide-awake at 10.55 on Saturday.

Exercising his charm and well-trained wit on Harold Evans, ex-editor of The Times and Sunday Times, and Michael Grade, Controller of BBC 1. Two nice chaps who'll enjoy swapping insults with Clive.

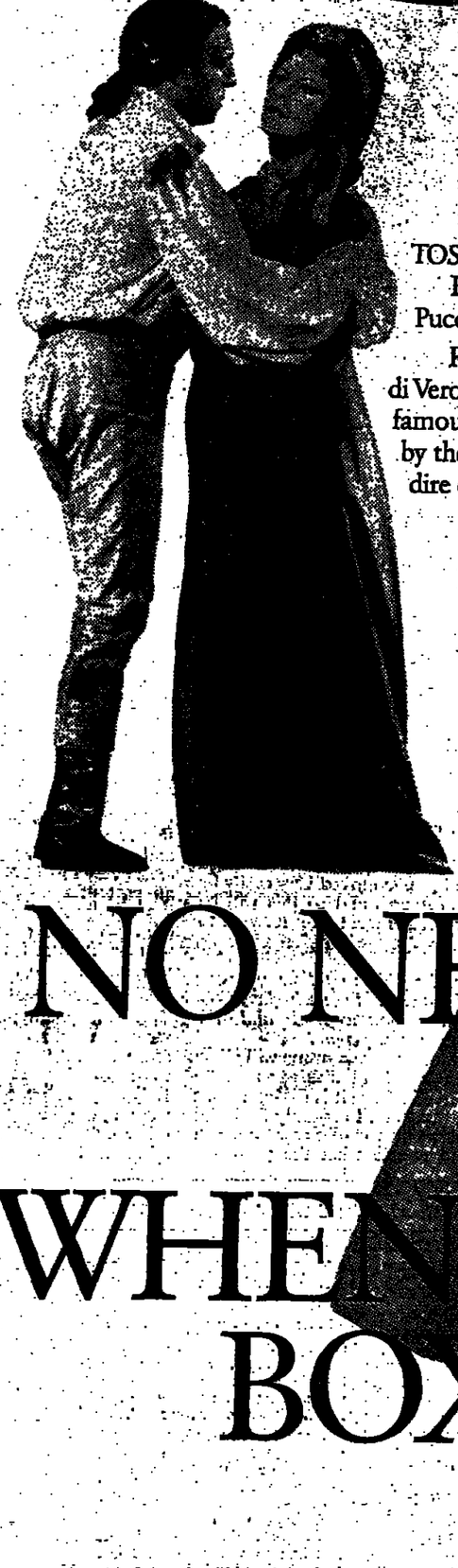


A WEEK IN POLITICS. 8.15 FRIDAY.
In the British Communist Party, the right left disagrees with the left left. How long before there is no-one left? On the eve of the Party's congress, Peter Jay's team investigates.



PRAISE MARX
AND PASS THE AMMUNITION.
This Friday's film at 11.20 takes a more light-hearted but still thought-provoking look at conflict in the red camp.

John Thaw, as Dom, preaches that all men are created equal – and practices on women.



TOSCA.
Eva Marton sings the lead in Puccini's great opera on Sunday at 2.30.

Recorded in the open-air Arena di Verona, the opera tells the story of a famous singer admired and pursued by the sadistic chief of police...with dire consequences.

NO NEED TO SWITCH OFF YOUR BRAIN WHEN YOU TURN ON THE BOX THIS WEEKEND.



MAPP & LUCIA.
At 8.15 on Sunday, the bell goes on another round of sophisticuffs between Miss Mapp in the red corner, and Lucia in the blue.
The gloves are off, the nails are out, and the once sleepy village of Tilling wakes up to enjoy every back-handed swipe.



20/20 VISION.
Who's richer, people who live in towns, or people from the country? Who lives better, them oop North, or those dayne Saythe?

Is there any chance of becoming rich and famous if you come from Hackney? Tune in on Saturday at 9.15.

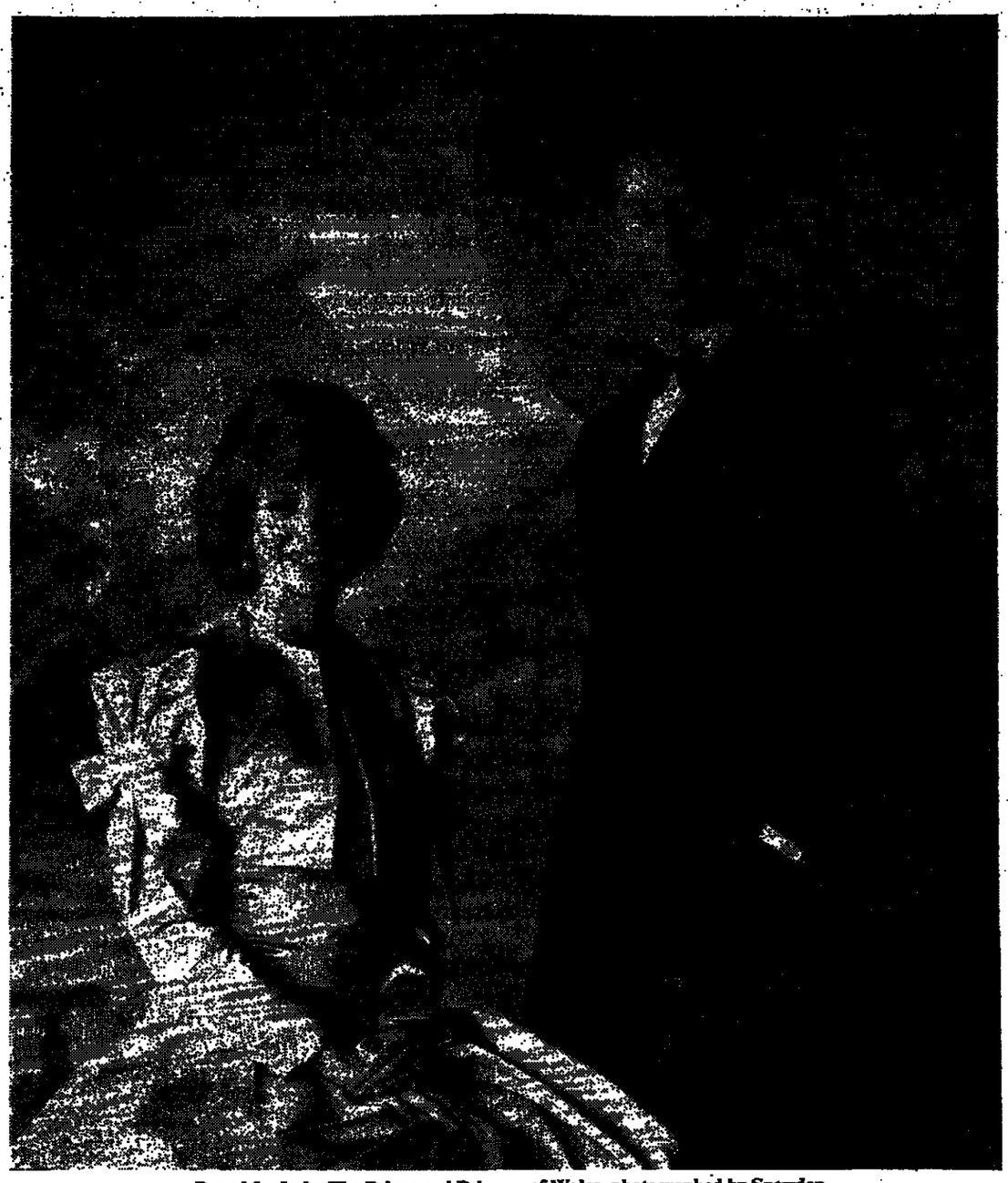


THE MAX HEADROOM SHOW.
On Saturday at 6.00 we leap 20 minutes into the future. Where the world's first computer-generated DJ, M...M...Max... Max...Head...Head Head...Headroom plays videos from The Vapours, Joe Jackson, and The...The...The...Police.
Watch out, pop of the flo...flo...flops.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON 4

A grand tour in the Royal tradition

The Prince of Wales frankly admits that there is a large gap in his education – his lack of knowledge about Italy. Today he sets about the task of putting that right, as he and the Princess of Wales begin a 17-day visit there as guests of the Italian government. It is the royal couple's first official visit to a country outside the Commonwealth, and it is a prospect that the Prince clearly relishes, as he made clear in an exclusive interview with Peter Nichols, *The Times* Rome correspondent



Bound for Italy: The Prince and Princess of Wales, photographed by Snowdon

As Italy is the first country that you and the Princess of Wales will be visiting officially outside the Commonwealth, what are your feelings and expectations?

I enjoyed very much my very brief first visit last year to Trieste and I am very much looking forward to this one. The only problem about a visit of this nature is that it is much more public than perhaps is the best way of seeing things. As a tourist, for instance, you can go and look at things more quietly, without being photographed or having to worry about the various things that one has to worry about.

In that sense on a more official visit like this, it is perhaps not as easy to see a country like Italy as well as we would be able to do if we were going quite quietly and completely incognito. But I am expecting great things. I admire enormously what I have heard and read of the Italian way of life and I greatly admire their music and artistic enterprise. These are the things that I am very much looking forward to seeing.

There seems to be a tradition in your family to visit Italy. Where do you think the fascination lies? Do you feel that by going you are filling a gap in your education?

I definitely have felt for a long time that a large part of my education has been lacking because I haven't been able to go to Italy. I suppose it was because I was very occupied at university and at that stage I did not know anybody who could have introduced me to Italy. So that was one of the problems. And then I joined the Navy so I was going all over the world and that made it more difficult. But I am very much aware of what I have lacked in my general education in civilization, to which Italy has made such an important contribution.

I have talked to my grandmother (the Queen Mother) a great deal about this, because when she was young she spent part of the year in Italy because both her grandmothers had villas there. She has often told me stories about Italy and they have always seemed immensely attractive and interesting and enlivening. From that point of view I have regretted missing out on it and so want to fill in those missing parts of my education and see all these lovely places and look at the paintings and hear the music and generally, I hope, imbibe some of the Italian ambience.

There is a long tradition in my family of visiting Italy. Queen Victoria, my great-great-great grandmother went, I think, three or four times towards the end of her life. I think the first time was in about 1879 when she stayed at a villa somewhere near Lake Maggiore and went all round the countryside looking at the villages and towns; she also went to Milan and looked at Leonardo's "Last Supper". She went back again in the 1880s and 1890s and stayed in Florence and other places.

I know that at Buckingham Palace and at Windsor there are pictures painted of her sitting on the terrace in, I suppose, Florence, painting – she painted a great deal herself and was very good at it. I am going to take my sketch book with me because I do rather enjoy trying to do a little drawing and painting and I have always rather longed to see the light in Italy and to try my hand at it – but I am very bad. And then there are other members of my family, like King Edward VII, who went once or twice, and the Duke of Windsor, my great uncle.

Where are you due to go and what famous sights and monuments are you planning to see?

We are going to start in Sardinia very briefly and then go to La Spezia where we will look at certain aspects of the Italian navy at work and go to sea for a short time on one of the warships. Then we go to Milan and then down to Florence. I am also longing to see the countryside in Tuscany then we go to Rome and spend three or four days there, during which time we will call on His Holiness and see President Alessandro Pertini, and the Prime Minister, Bettino Craxi. We will also be looking at the Boys' Town of Rome so we are looking forward to that. Then we go down to Sicily and then Trani and then we sail up the coast to Venice.

Of course that is a marvellous place to finish the visit. We flew over it coming back from Trieste last October. It was absolutely fascinating seeing Venice from 16,000ft, seeing how it all has remained virtually intact. That is what I find so fascinating about somewhere like Venice – the way in which the Italians have managed to conserve or preserve their beautiful towns and villages and churches in a way that I don't think has been possible to the same extent in this country. Of course, this is why so many people love to go to Italy – to see these great flights of the human spirit in the kind of architectural creations that were established.

What are you most looking forward to seeing? Archaeological sites? Will you be able to hear some music?

I only did archaeology for one year at university and I didn't do any Roman archaeology. I was mostly involved in the palaeolithic period, so I am afraid I am not at all knowledgeable about the Roman or the Etruscan periods. But I am very keen to learn and to see as many of the different historical and archaeological sites as possible. When I was in Italy last October I went to Aquileia very briefly and that was fascinating, so I have had a little foretaste of what there is.

As far as the music is concerned, we are both particularly keen to see La Scala and to hear the opera *Turandot* which is being performed while we are in Milan. La Scala is something I have always wanted to visit: I am a great admirer of Italian opera singers and I feel that this is where so much of the best opera has originated, so it will be wonderful to see it in its home city.

Which opera composers do you prefer?

I am obviously very enthusiastic about Verdi – I enjoy enormously nearly all his operas, as well as some Puccini and Donizetti. I have an awful lot to learn still but I become moved very easily by the Italian operas and so this will be something that I shall look forward to very much.

Will you be able to follow up your personal interest in such fields as helping the handicapped and the problems of young people?

I don't think the programme will allow as much of this kind of thing as maybe I would like because it is difficult to fit all these things in. I certainly find that it is possible to discover through talking to people what the problems are. But I hope we will be able to fit in one or two visits to these kinds of things so that I can discover how the Italians tackle these particular problems. There is one opportunity of seeing these kind of things at the Boys' Town in Rome and I hope that by generally meeting people and talking to them we will be able to find out things ourselves. But inevitably on these sorts of visits it is not always easy to be able to meet people that one would like to meet.

Does your programme offer you much chance to meet ordinary Italians?

I very much hope so because obviously that is half the point. When I was in Trieste for two or three days I did my best to meet as many people as I could and that was the greatest possible fun. I have never forgotten when I got out of the car and I went up to some people; the first person I talked to was an elderly man who put both his arms round me and gave me a kiss on both cheeks and a lady grabbed me and did the same, and I thought "this is wonderful, I actually know that people are friendly and responsive" and I thought it was terrific. I fell in love with Italy last year and with the people; I thought they were such fun and had such a wonderful outlook on life.

I admire greatly, what seems to me anyway, the Italians' ability to make life into a kind of art form, in the sense that everything is done very carefully. I love the way they take great trouble over their food making sure they have fresh vegetables and selecting things carefully and taking trouble over its preparation and presentation. And you can see the trouble that has been taken over the way everything is designed and built – the houses and towns and the squares and colonnades and the way light and shade are used and the fountains. It all indicates a feeling for life and for celebrating life that I find extraordinarily attractive.

Do you have any special message for the Italians?

Above all my wife and I are greatly honoured that we should be invited to Italy in the first place and we cannot possibly thank the Italian Government enough. We are particularly sorry that we were not able to come last year but because of new babies arriving it wasn't possible. The Italians and the British, I think, have got on extremely well over the centuries, give or take a few minor disagreements, and I think that relationship of mutual admiration and enjoyment and appreciation still exists very much. And now that we are all part of a wider Europe it seems more important that we appreciate each other and cooperate as much as we possibly can. I would hope that our visit will help to further cement those very important and profound ties.

We are greatly looking forward to meeting as many Italians as possible and we shall look forward even more to one day introducing our children to Italy at an earlier stage then either of us were and giving them a feeling for other cultures and other ways of life and other languages.

Tomorrow

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Jacqueline Reditt assesses the success of Brazil's showpiece capital 25 years after its construction

The reality behind the Brasilia dream

When the Brazilians built a new capital in the middle of the wilderness 25 years ago, it was a tremendously exciting project, a brave, new "City of Hope", "The Promised Land", a "Dream come True". Far more important than the obvious practical reasons for moving the capital out of the congested and confined coastal port of Rio de Janeiro was the pioneers' dream of opening up the interior, of linking the remote corners of this vast country, of giving it a heart.

The dream was not a new one. An interior capital had been proposed as early as 1750. The first constitution of the republic, following independence from Portugal in 1889, provided for a future federal capital in the central, high plateau – the Planalto. But it was only in 1956 that the newly-elected President Juscelino Kubitschek de Oliveira resolved to transform the emptiness of the high savannah, more than 1,000 metres above sea level and 1,000 kilometres (625 miles) inland, into the "brain of the nation".

Architects and engineers, machines and materials were drafted into the wilderness. Top Brazilian architect, Oscar Niemeyer, was invited to design the main buildings. Town planner, Lucio Costa, won a national competition to plan the city. Men trekked for hundreds of miles in search of work and their fortunes in this new Eldorado. Just four years later, Brasilia officially replaced Rio de Janeiro as the federal capital of Brazil.

According to Niemeyer, the driving force that infected all those involved in the building of Brasilia, was Kubitschek's "delirious enthusiasm". "We were on a crusade... We worked together, engineers, architects, labourers and we forgot that social discrimination even existed." What impressed Niemeyer most at the beginning was "the silence, a silence that seemed to make a noise. We weren't used to it. And the distance. There was no telephone, only a little radio, we seemed to be at the end of the world... It was a little bit frightening."



Futuristic but lonely: Brasilia's Ministry of External Relations

For Costa, the challenge was to create a capital where there was nothing, no landscape, no local environment for the city to adapt to. There was only the sky. The horizon and the immense sky.

Brasilia's architects sought, above all else, the original – "a different point of view". Niemeyer created a cathedral in the shape of a crown of thorns, the entrance a dark underground passage leading into a dome of light. His white Congress building – twin towers flanked by a dome over the Senate and an upturned saucer above the Chamber of Deputies – is surely the only parliament in the world designed to allow the people to gather on its roof. Niemeyer's buildings aim for lightness, using delicately curved columns in the shape of arrow heads (repeated in the city's coat of arms), high fluted arches, light colours, wide expanses of glass, mirrors of still water, waterfall facades.

The city is shaped like an airplane. At the tail is the railway station, in the cockpit, the President's "Palace of the Dawn", with the V-shaped lake round it. Along the "body" of the plane, on either side of a wide, grass centred avenue, are the public buildings – Congress, the ministries, the Supreme Court, the National Theatre, hotels, conference centres. The heart of the city, as befits this staging post for all Brazil, is the bus station. Here, where the wings of the plane join the body, are the business and banking sectors, shopping and amusement centres. Further along the wings are the "super blocks" – huge blocks of flats that are Brasilia's main residential area. A sector for everything and everything in its sector.

Twenty-five years old this month (April 21), Brasilia is no longer a dream. Kubitschek is dead. Costa and Niemeyer have long since departed and rarely visit, second generation *Brasilienses* have already been born and the capital of Brazil has its own clear identity.

To travel to Brasilia by road from the nearest major town (Belo Horizonte) takes eight hours across the savannah of undulating grassland, stunted, gnarled, silvery trees, waist high, ochre-coloured ant hills.

The first sight of building blocks shining geometrically on this immense plateau has an "other-worldly" aura, a touch of science fiction. But many complain that life in this futuristic, isolated city is dull. "Brazilians don't like Brasilia because it has no movement", said a Rio de Janeiro engineer.

Tulia Vogensen, brought up in Goiania, Brasilia's nearest sizeable neighbouring town, 130 miles away disagrees. "There's plenty to do here if you look for it. The cultural life is improving, job conditions, schooling and infrastructure in general are far better here than in the interior elsewhere. Children grow up very independent because it's safe, not like Rio or São Paulo where the crime's so bad, everyone's scared to go out."

But her 15-year-old daughter comments "Brasilia's nice, but there's not enough adventure here for me".

For Mrs Vogensen, the main complaint is "the distance from anywhere else" and "I don't think in general people feel happy living in these huge super blocks". She and her husband, both teachers, and their two teenage children, live in a small flat. Ironically, given the openness of the Planalto, they say: "We feel the need for space, we feel blocked in."

Raymond Frajmund, representative for British Airways, came here in 1960 as a journalist. "No one wanted to come to Brasilia then, I agreed to come just for two months. But I felt happy here because in a century of wars, when people had been destroying cities around the world, we were constructing one.

"Of course", said Frajmund, "I was disappointed: my romantic concept of the city was destroyed when it became a reality, especially after the military coup. Here we are living so close to the ruling power, that the shadow of the President falls over the city".

Not all of Lucio Costa's more revolutionary town planning ideas have proved completely successful. His "free flow" traffic system, a complex combination of clover leaf junctions and merging lanes, has had to resort to good old fashioned traffic lights in many places. The open spaces between buildings, though aesthetically pleasing, are impractical for pedestrians. The city centre, dominated by administrative offices, is gloomy and empty after working hours.

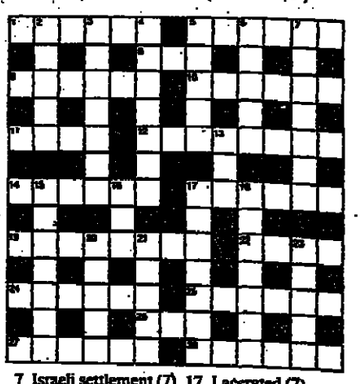
But, where this "City of Hope" has failed most, has been in its egalitarian promise. The super blocks, designed to house rich and poor together, are occupied almost entirely by the middle class. The rich live in detached houses across the lake, the poor in satellite towns.

Costa maintains that these people "are much better off than they were in the places they came from". But the inhabitants of the satellite towns would not agree. "If I hang my washing out, I have to watch it until it's dry or it gets stolen", said one woman.

Brasilia's chief architect, Oscar Niemeyer, said of the labourers who built the city, "They gave everything and received nothing in return. The first baby boy born in Brasilia, Joaquim da Costa Tavares, now 27, earns a meagre living as a gardener and lives in a two-roomed wooden shack without electricity or running water in a slum by the dam his father helped build."

Niemeyer sums it up. On the positive side "Brasilia is a true capital and has brought progress to the area", but "from a social point of view, Brasilia is like all other Brazilian cities, a city of discrimination, of poor and rich".

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 623)



ACROSS
1 Singulus (6)
5 Monstrosities (6)
8 Largest Swiss river (3)
9 Yellow coloured (6)
10 Undress (6)
11 Attar (4)
12 Crowded (8)
14 Dirty (6)
17 Da Vinci patron (6)
19 Lower Indian chamber (3,5)
22 Bumpkin (4)
24 Rigorous (6)
25 Protective headwear (6)
26 Foot digit (3)
27 Candidly (6)
28 Fabrics dealer (6)

DOWN
2 Small island (5)
3 Cock's head growth (7)
4 Magnificent array (7)
5 Dowdy woman (5)
6 Register (5)
7 Israeli settlement (7)
13 3000-300 megahertz band (1,1,1)
15 High house point (7)
16 Constrictor snake (3)
17 Lacerated (7)
18 Polonius's daughter (7)
20 Descendant (5)
21 Crazy (5)
23 Pancake (5)

SOLUTION TO No 622
ACROSS: 8 Recriminatory 9 Cue 10 Cardsharp 11 Spawn 13 Lexicon 16 Pretzel 19 North 22 Retrieval 24 Pun 25 Clement Attlee
DOWN: 1 Braces 2 Eczema 3 Pince nez 4 Fibril 5 Pass 6 Mosaic 7 Tympan 12 Par 14 Xenolith 15 Opt 16 Piracy 17 Esteem 18 Levity 20 Ripple 21 Hinder 23 Inez

هكذا من الأصل

Sound and fury of pop's top crusader

Bob Geldof, versatile mastermind of the record which raised millions for famine relief, talks to Jo Weedon

Bob Geldof, the pop singer who became the saviour of millions of starving Ethiopians, was adamant. For once, he didn't want to talk about famine relief.

The man who masterminded the fund-raising Band Aid record has spent the last four months publicly venting his rage about the African disaster and raising £8m into the bargain. Today, just for a change, he wanted to do something with himself in mind. His second film, *Number One*, is released today and 32-year-old Geldof agreed to be interviewed – on condition he didn't talk about Band Aid.

It's a strange request. Since he co-wrote Band Aid's best-selling single ever, "Do They Know It's Christmas?", and rounded up many of the best known names in pop to record it, Geldof has campaigned relentlessly to promote the record and raise much more than the initial £1m target. His efforts have motivated pop musicians in other countries, including the US, to follow Britain's example and record for the Appeal.

"Why don't I want to talk about Band Aid?" he asks. "People must be fed up with me wittering on endlessly about it."

Yet the moment he tells himself to be quiet, he thinks every time he spouts off someone, somewhere is prompted to send him more money. And more money means more lives saved.

So today, despite his earlier instruction and without much resistance, he's talking about Band Aid. He sighs, and runs his hair through his mangled mop of dark hair. "The trouble is when I talk about it and begin thinking what there is still to be done I'm overwhelmed and feel very sad. The money we've raised so far is relatively only a few crumbs of help."

He's amazed that Band Aid has been so enormously effective, but this does not inspire self-congratulation. "I simply had an idea, went for it, and it worked."

A year ago Geldof was slipping into the background in the music world. His band, the Boomtown Rats, of which he is lead singer and manager, peaked five years ago with the chart-topping hit "I Don't Like Mondays", and has been marking time since.

There have been rumours that the group might disband, but Geldof denies it. "Some people want to write us off, but they forget we're paddies. We're extremely stubborn." That stubbornness has been a mark of his character for years and must account for some of his success with Band Aid. "I've always ranted on, shouting, screaming and kicking until something is done."

> **"Thinking about the starving millions . . . I felt such despairing rage"**

In Dublin last month, for example, the Lord Mayor staged a civic reception in his honour, presented him with a City of Dublin tie and a silver tankard, then sat back to hear Geldof bitterly rage on about the destruction of Dublin, and how he believed corruption and political back-handers were probably behind the decision to pull so much of it down.

"There was uproar. But I was in the lion's den, and I thought I may as well speak my mind and tell them they were wrecking the city and pulling down some of the prettiest buidings in Europe. You've got a responsibility to voice an opinion."

He voiced his opinion in front of Mrs Thatcher a few weeks ago, taking the Government to task over the failure to use the EEC's butter mountain to help the starving.

When he won an award from the British pop industry this year, he took the stand to accept it and his emotions got the better of him as he delivered a thundering speech reminding the audience of the horrors he witnessed first-hand when he visited Ethiopia this year. The outburst brought another £20,000 for the relief fund.

"I didn't plan to spout off. I began my speech by thanking the blokes who made "Do They Know It's Christmas?" and indeed the whole record industry for doing something magnificent. But when I began thinking about the starving millions that needed help, I felt such despairing rage."

Whatever people may think, Geldof insists he isn't involved with Band Aid for self-promotion. The Boomtown Rats haven't benefited at all, he points out. Their album released this year was a miserable flop. This irritates him.

What is ironic, he says, is that "Do They Know It's Christmas?" is just one of his songs and that the others are discounted. "Of course it's a special song for me and Midge (Midge Ure of Ultravox, who co-wrote it). I suppose it's the ultimate for a songwriter to write the biggest selling single ever, but what really matters is that there are people walking about on earth today because someone in Leeds or Leicester bought a record."

It wasn't simply a song, though, it was the way the record was produced, the way Geldof gathered so many pop stars to sing it and the way it was marketed.

Despite his commitment to Band Aid, he insists his personal life hasn't suffered because of his gruelling workload. He shares his life with television presenter and writer Paula Yates and their two-year-old daughter Fifi. Fatherhood brings out the gentler side of Geldof. He grins sheepishly at the mention of his daughter and admits his times with her are precious.

He'd like more children, he says, but despite reports that he and Paula will head for Las Vegas to get married later this year, it isn't true. They've been together for eight years now, and have no plans to marry. "What's the point?" he asks. "What more commitment can you make to each other than having a child?"

This summer he plans to stage fund-raising concerts on both sides of the Atlantic, recruiting some of the world's top performers to take part.

Only after that will he wind down his Band Aid involvement. "The Band Aid Trust is running very efficiently now."

Band Aid will go on. Geldof has to feed himself as well as the starving Africans, so he must make a living. He's just finished a 44 date tour of Britain with the Boomtown Rats, his second film is out today, and at the end of the month he's off to his home town of Dublin to make his next movie, a thriller in which he plays an unsuccessful writer who turns killer.

The former factory worker and music journalist made his film debut two years ago in Alan Parker's *The Wall*, a big-budget, psychological film, based on Pink Floyd's music with no dialogue.

He gives a convincing performance in *Number One*, which also stars Mel Smith. Geldof plays 'Flash' Harry Gordon, a lovable layabout who is unwillingly enticed on to the professional snooker circuit by shady promoters intent on fixing matches and cleaning up a fortune.

What does he think of his own performance? He laughs and confesses he hadn't seen the film yet, and didn't intend to until last night's gala premiere. "I hate watching myself. I get very embarrassed. The first time I saw *The Wall* was at the Cannes film festival and I nearly freaked out.

"Suddenly there was my face, 50 times too big. I wanted to run out but Parker clamped my leg. Now, I'm dreading having to sit there watching myself."

The opportunities for a film career are his for the taking, though. Since the previews of *Number One* there have been quite a few offers which he finds very flattering. "Oh, I'm not suggesting they're saying: 'Hey! This guy is fabulous', but I suppose they think I'm not too bad, and because I'm a pop singer I fill a few more cinema seats.

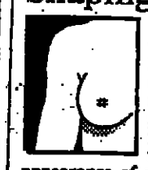
"I enjoy acting and want to learn. I can only make a fool of myself very publicly, and I've never been too afraid of doing that. Sometimes I die at the things I say and do, but I'm not afraid of failing. If I was I wouldn't do anything."



Record results: Band Aid songwriter Midge Ure (left) and Geldof, with his daughter Fifi getting in on the act

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Shaping up



For many women who have had to have a mastectomy the worst part is feeling self-conscious about having no breast, or being unhappy about the appearance of an artificial implant. However, over the last five years a technique known as tissue expansion has been developed in the United States, which produces much better cosmetic results.

The technique was first introduced into the United Kingdom by Professor Ian Jackson and Mr David Sharpe, consultant plastic surgeon in Bradford. They have successfully operated on 25 women and demonstrated their work at a conference in Leeds last week.

An implant under the muscle in the chest wall, made at the same time as the breast is removed, can be injected and gradually inflated so that after a few months the skin has been gently stretched. Six months seems the best length of time for the expansion, to prevent the skin contracting at a later date, and the new breast losing shape.

There are advantages for both surgeons and women. For surgeons, unlike ordinary implants, the envelope does not obscure or prevent the detection of recurrent tumours while for women, because the skin is local tissue, there is a perfect colour match and a better breast shape can be achieved.

Diet dilemma



A leading child specialist has warned parents not to put children on restricted diets in the hope of curing a suspected food allergy.

Professor John Soothill leads the team of specialists from London's Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, and the Institute of Child Health, which has pioneered research into the idea that some children can react badly to foods which to others are harmless.

Food allergy can be a cause of childhood eczema, migraine, hyperactivity and, possibly, even fits. It can be helped by a diet.

However, the findings have revealed a familiar dilemma. The United Kingdom has neither the expertise nor resources to treat every child who has the problem. But Professor Soothill warns parents not to take unprofessional advice.

At Great Ormond Street, Professor Soothill sees growing numbers of children who are undernourished because of inadequate diets.

Double vision



One of the hallmarks of James Galway's performances, apart from his flute-playing, is his involuntary wobbling eyes. This condition, known as nystagmus, affects about one in 4,000 people from birth although it can develop as a result of brain damage.

It may be associated with albinism and being born with cataracts. But for the majority with congenital nystagmus there is no known cause.

Dr Richard Abadi, from the Department of Ophthalmic Optics, at the University of Manchester's Institute of Science and Technology, is studying different types of nystagmus and is keen to have volunteers to help with his research.

He is looking for babies under six months and adults who compensate for their difficulties by shaking or turning their heads.

Interestingly, those people born with the condition are not aware that their eyes wobble. Over the years, the brain compensates. But unfortunately, it is difficult to improve the quality of vision even when the eye movements are steadied.

If you are a sufferer, would like to help Dr Abadi, and could easily travel to Manchester, contact him at The Department of Ophthalmic Optics, UMIST, PO Box 88, Manchester M60 1QD (061 236 3311, ext 2521).

Mumps grumps



Mumps is usually contracted in childhood and 90 per cent have it before they are 14. For adults, the disease can be nasty with unpleasant complications, but fortunately they are rare, as Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, who has mumps, will be relieved to know.

The fear for men is that they will become sterile if they contract the disease, but the odds of this happening are not great. Mumps can lead to orchitis (painful inflammation of the testes). Only one out of four adults will suffer from orchitis, and only one out of six of these have both testes involved – when infertility may develop.

A live vaccine for mumps is available, but it is rarely administered, despite having a safe record.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

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THE TIMES DIARY

Tartan cheque

The Royal Bank of Scotland is planning a midnight flit to London in the last weekend of September to rip off the signs from every branch of its recent acquisition, Williams & Glyn's, and replace it with their own. "Like every good married woman, it must lose its name" said the Royal Bank, which is not stopping there. It is also reviewing the position of the upper-crust banks, Child's and Holt's, which it inherited in the takeover, and its own bank Drummond's. The Royal Bank refused to discuss its plans, but scoffed at the suggestion that it was preparing to relaunch Child's as a rival to Coutts. "Nonsense. Child's consider Coutts to be upstarts. The only reason Child's lost the Royal account was because Mr Child followed a command by George III to stop paying out so much money to his playboy son. As soon as the Prince of Wales became King he went down the road to Coutts". Meanwhile the bank laughed off suggestions that it was producing a kilt for the Williams & Glyn's staff; nor will clients be issued with sporrans. The bank was not so dismissive, however, of my suggestion that it should sell off the old W & G signs to souvenir hunters.

● **Is Fidel Castro about to succumb to the lure of American megabucks? I hear Alice Mayhew, of New York publisher Simon and Schuster, is in Cuba hoping to negotiate a contract for his memoirs. From S & S yesterday, a resounding "no comment".**

BARRY FANTONI



'Looks to me like the enemy within, within'

Not saying

Rumour has it that the GLC is suppressing a poll showing a mere 56 per cent of Londoners opposed to abolition compared with the 74 per cent boasted about on GLC posters. Confidential minutes show that the GLC propagandists wanted to use the results of the full-scale poll, commissioned from Harris last December, during the guillotining of the abolition bill's committee stage last February. February came and went. At the beginning of March challenged by local government minister Kenneth Baker, Tony Banks admitted to the poll's existence. On March 7 Ken Livingstone, when challenged, said the results – delayed by Westminster Council's injunction against the GLC – had been received and were being "analysed". Six weeks on, still no results. "They will be made public later this month," a spokesman assures me. I await them with interest.

Tarnished

Goldcrest, the golden boy company of British cinema, will lose some of its gloss this autumn with the publication of a deeply critical book by director John Boorman. In a diary of the making of his new film *Emerald Forest*, Boorman records how he pulled out when Goldcrest said it could not finance the anticipated budget and demanded cuts of $750,000. "Needless to say nobody within Goldcrest has informed me of their decision", he says, adding he worked two years for Goldcrest without payment "as a gesture to the ideals they claimed to support". Boorman, director of *Deliverance* and *Excalibur*, went on to make the film, the story of a boy kidnapped by Brazilian Indians, for rivals Embassy – and despite Goldcrest's lack of faith, brought it in under budget.

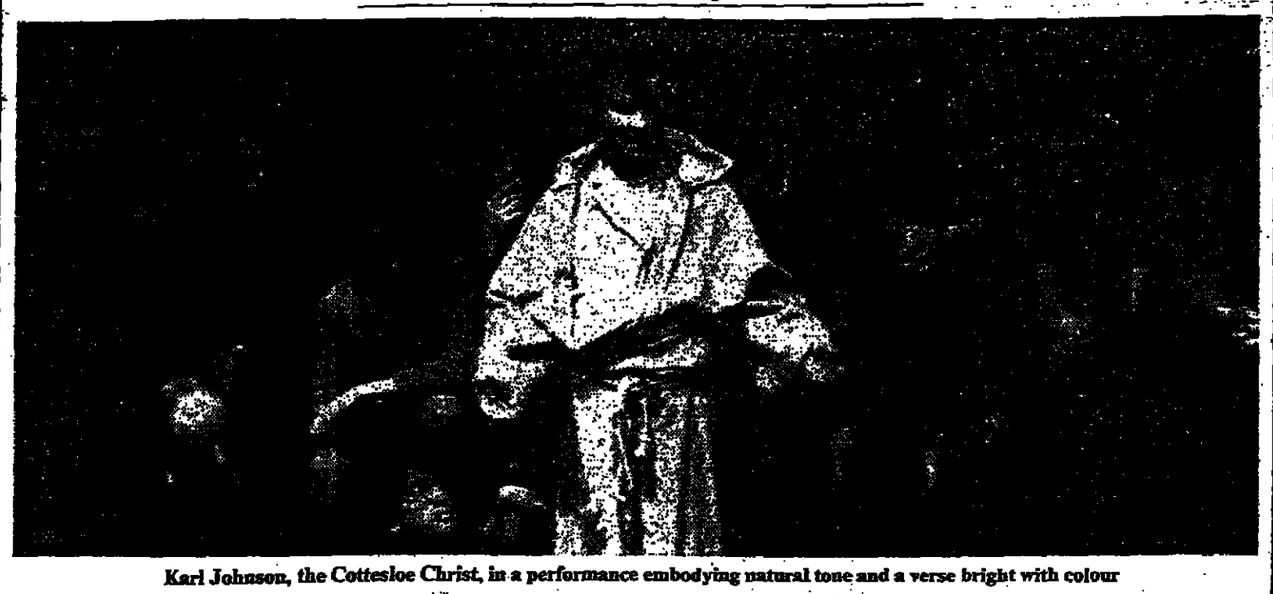
● **Germans relying on Deutscher Taschenbuch Verlag's new dictionary will be puzzled over their country's recent history. It omits the words Nazi, Gauleiter, Fuhrer, Fascist and Gestapo.**

Home fixture

An embarrassing choice faces Nigel Lawson, now in Washington for the International Monetary Fund's spring meeting. The IMF's next, and more important, meeting takes place in South Korea in October – the same week as the Tory conference in Blackpool. Lawson's last party conference speech was something of a disaster, which may be why he is rumoured to be considering opting for Blackpool to rescue some domestic brownie points. His absence from the world gathering of finance ministers would be embarrassing internationally, however. When the two events have clashed on previous occasions chancellors have usually managed to get to the IMF. An absence would certainly invite comparison with the last time a British chancellor missed an IMF meeting – the famous moment when Denis Healey had to turn back at Heathrow to cope with the domestic crisis in 1976.

PHS

Bernard Levin: the way we live now



Karl Johnson, the Cottesloe Christ, in a performance embodying natural tone and a verse bright with colour

When mystery was an open book

After tomorrow's performances, the Cottesloe auditorium of the National Theatre will close for a few months, the closure being Sir Peter Hall's dramatic way (better one honest murder, as Shaw said in a somewhat different context, than half a dozen furtive mutilations) of drawing attention to the stringencies forced upon his company by the difference, in the matter of public funding, between expectation and reality.

Possibly Sir Peter has forgotten the Chinese proverb which says that it is a false economy to burn your house down out of a desire to inconvenience your mother-in-law; but I come to praise Caesar, not to bury him. The work with which the Cottesloe will ring down the curtain is *The Mysteries*, a conflation, in three parts, of the English medieval craft plays on the life, death and resurrection of Christ; they have been adapted under the respective titles of *The Nativity*, *The Passion* and *Doomsday* and they will play tomorrow in sequence from elevenses to bed-time. So they did when I saw the three performances a few Saturdays ago and was as enthralled, exhilarated and moved as I have ever been in a theatre in all my life.

The adapter, Tony Harrison, and director, Bill Bryden, have sought an equivalent of the atmosphere and technique which must have informed the originals: these were staged by unlearned men using the texts of poets whose names are now mostly undiscoverable, and were played upon carts drawn from place to place through the town (notably Wakefield, York, Chester and Coventry) as the day, and the story, wore on. Harrison and Bryden must have realized early on that any attempt either to archaicise these works or to make them overtly theatrical would instantly drain the life out of them; what they have done, and done consistently throughout, is to turn the entire drama into an affair of men and women taking time off from their earthly trades to rejoice in the glories of heaven. For consider: the original actors (who were the craftsmen themselves, of course) would have been known as friends, colleagues, neighbours or relatives to the audience, and as the tableaux moved through the streets and the cycle, the distinction between player and audience must have vanished, *along with the distinction between player and character*. That man up there in the funny clothes is Tom the Baker as well as John the Baptist, and the bugger has owed me fourpence since Michaelmas; as for Christ, considering the amount of ale he put down last night he'll fall off the bloody Cross if they don't nail him to it pretty tight.

Men who thought and talked like that were not blaspheming, nor were they indifferent to the spectacle unfolding before them; they had staged these plays to bear witness to the reality of their faith, and the faith was strengthened, not weakened, by the homeliness of the proceedings.

The gap between a modern audience and modern actors was the easier one to bridge; Mr Bryden realized that he had to stage the plays as promenades, undermine self-consciousness with what I suppose must be called community dancing and by moving the action in and out of the crowd, and make the players mingle with the spectators at every possible opportunity. (I was reminded of Peter Brook's final, overwhelming *coup de théâtre* when, at the end of his *Midsummer Night's Dream*, the cast left via the stalls, shaking hands as they went.)

The other bridge was far more difficult to create, and far more rickety; it swung perilously over the gulf, and must have looked likely to dash all concerned to pieces on the rocks below. How do you turn a late twentieth-century audience, whose religion (if any) has been filleted, denatured and sterilized, into a body of men and women to whom Mary the Mother of God is as real as Mary the mother of that little red-headed pest who I'll beat the living daylights out of if he pinches any more of my apples?

Well, you cannot do it by hypnotizing the audience, any more than by asking them to clap if they believe in fairies. You do it by working with the actors until they are freed of the bonds of artifice and elocution, until the sword of technique is beaten into the ploughshares of truth; until they fuse into the words and the characters in the terrible furnace of what and whom they are portraying. You could see the audience, responding to the stupendous energy the cast were imbued with and expending, almost literally catching it, like a fever, until they ached to be given a part themselves and play it, gradually realizing, with wonder and visible joy, that they *had* been given a part, and *were* playing it.

At the risk of being invidious, or causing embarrassment, I must particularize. Take the young actress who initially plays Eve; towards the end of the day she is part of a group which performs a dance of celebration, in form something between Sir Roger de Coverley and a Morris dance. As she came round each time, I saw her face clearly; she was illuminated from within, rapt with the tremendousness of the story now moving to its climax. Don't tell me – I wouldn't believe her if she told me herself – that the look on her face was the result of the director saying "In the next bit, sweetie, you have to look happy". Or take the young man who plays, among other parts, Isaac. He, in turn, was part of a chorus at the funeral of the Virgin; as he, too, came round again, he was singing the hymn of triumph in such roaring ecstasy that I thought the heart would burst out of his body, and I will not, likewise, believe that that was in response to the director saying "A bit louder, please, darling".

The language of the verse is rich with alliteration, bright with colour, wonderfully real with its directness. It is not like Chaucer, but it is reminiscent of Chaucer; there is not a line anywhere to suggest that the original poet had momentarily forgotten the nature of his audience, or that the adapter has forgotten the nature of his. Again and again, the simplest tricks of staging open an entire realm of effect, so natural is their conception, and this naturalness is the tone of the whole thing. (Sometimes the actors laugh, not as part of their performance, but because of some tiny mishap, or some movement or comment from the audience. They have clearly been told to go ahead and laugh whenever they feel like it, because it won't matter. And it doesn't).

This principle is carried to extraordinary lengths at times, though the confidence of all concerned brings them through. In the uncanonical story of Mak the bad shepherd, Mak is caught stealing sheep, and is sentenced to the pillory. The pillory is one of those seaside joke-photograph devices: the actor puts his head through a hole; and the children in the audience (there are many of them) are invited to pelt him with wet sponges. Most of them enter into the game with zest, but one or two hang back. "Come on", says Mak, encouraging them; then he mutters, "You won't get a chance like this at Coriolanus, I can tell you."

It is this welding of actor, audience, play and story into one whole that gives the performance its unique quality – and I wish there were another word for performance, for it diminishes the thing that has been created, which far transcends any idea of a theatre as a place which we visit to see a play, and of a play as that which we visit a theatre to see.

What a way to go! But while the Cottesloe is closed, performances of this mighty achievement will be given in the Lyceum, and when it reopens it is inconceivable that *The Mysteries* will be dropped from the repertoire. In the prefatory pages of the First Folio, there is, as well as the Droeshout portrait and Jonson's well-known eulogy, a verse, "To the memorie of W. Shakespeare", signed only by the initials J.M. It is a fitting epitaph on the Cottesloe as it closes its doors, and a no less fitting prologue to its reopening:

... Wee thought thee dead, but this thy printed worth,
Tells thy Spectators, that thou went'st but forth
To enter with applause. An Actors Art,
Can dye, and live, to acte a second part.
That's but an Exit of Mortalitie:
This, a Re-entrance to a Plaudite.

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David Watt

A relationship to be nourished

Having recently been accused in these pages of being a "realist luminary of the British foreign policy Establishment", I imagine it must be good for me to be brought into contact from time to time with undoubted examples – and the more surprising the better – of sentiment at work in international politics. At any rate, let me note a particularly gratifying instance which has just been on display in the case of Mrs Thatcher and Rajiv Gandhi.

I did not witness their brief meeting in Delhi last Saturday but I was recently in India long enough to be convinced by the testimony on both sides that their liking and admiration for each other is altogether out of the usual – so much so that it actually bridges the distance which some members of their respective bureaucracies would like to impose on them. It was Rajiv Gandhi who insisted, against the grain of his foreign ministry's advice, that the freeze in British-Indian relations (imposed because of what the Indians see as lenience towards Sikh extremists in Britain) should be brought to an end. As for Mrs Thatcher, that notorious arch-sceptic on the subject of economic aid to developing countries, Whitehall's admonitory word to her entourage before her arrival in Delhi was: "For God's sake make her leave her chequebook behind or she'll write him another."

On the face of it, a more unlikely attachment would be hard to imagine. There is not a lot about modern India that one would have expected to appeal to Mrs Thatcher. Its non-aligned (and indeed often pro-Soviet) foreign policy and its heavily state-run economy are both sopping "wet". Moreover, as I found at a British-Indian meeting near Simla last week, there is no sign that in these two fundamental respects Rajiv Gandhi will change much.

It is true that the Indian team at Simla was mainly composed of elderly and influential people with what might be called a vested interest in continuity. But in preaching continuity, as they did, they have either read the new prime minister's deliberate intentions correctly or have made a shrewd estimate of the difficulty he would have in overcoming resistance to change (not least, perhaps, from people like themselves) if that is really what he hankers for.

In foreign affairs the message is still that India's position during Mrs Gandhi's ascendancy was a careful reflection of Indian national interest. India, as one Indian participant put it, is "a democratic country surrounded by confident anti-democratic neighbours". It must survive, and maintain an area of economic tranquillity for itself, by keeping a balance between them. The Soviet Union is the only power able to cancel out the nearest threats – from Pakistan and China – and, given US backing for Pakistan, the most convenient power to supply India with relatively cheap arms in large quantities.

The price that has to be paid is not, in the Indian view, particularly high, being mainly a question of taking positions in international bodies – especially the UN – which do not upset Soviet susceptibilities; in almost every other respect India simply goes its own way, with a mixed economy, membership of the Commonwealth and massive economic links with the West.

It is hard for anyone, including Rajiv Gandhi, to argue with this logic, although the balance can always be shifted marginally as circumstances change. If, for instance, Sino-Soviet relations improve (as they may) the Indians would initially look to the Russians to restrain Peking from active hostility towards India.

If Russia and China really looked like ganging up, then a better relationship with Pakistan, and possibly with the US, would be called for. But for the moment, apart from some minor pacific adjustments, the Indians see no need or prospect of any great alteration.

The economic line is equally unequivocal. All talk about "modernization" should not be taken as signalling any radical conversion to Thatcherite notions of free markets and privatization. The Indian public sector accounts for more than 70 per cent of manufacturing production and efforts to make it more efficient, by means of better use of capacity and more realistic pricing policies are not to be interpreted as the beginning of an attempt to make more room for private enterprise. A small bonfire of licensing restrictions on private sector activities and rather less government paternalism in general are developments which Mrs Thatcher must applaud, but they still leave India a highly nationalized economy.

For the Reagan administration these "faults" are evidently enough to justify a serious deterioration of relations – to say nothing of all sorts of sanctions, political and economic. It is to Mrs Thatcher's credit that in this case she has decided to march in the opposite direction from the US and concentrate on essentials:

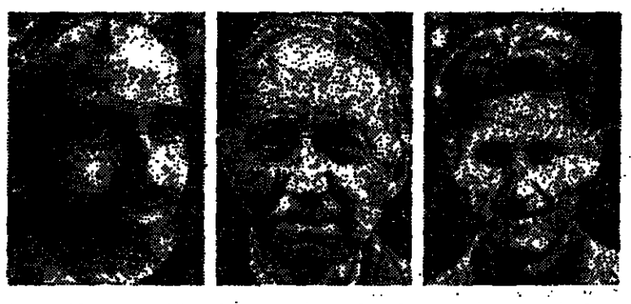
- India is, by far, the world's largest genuine democracy.
- Its economic performance in the last decade has been remarkable and, as is now beginning to dawn on the public at large, may become a formidable industrial power. In fact India is a standing advertisement for the efficacy of North-South cooperation, properly applied.
- India is Britain's largest export market in the developing world (nearly £800 million in 1984).
- There remains, in India, a large reservoir of affection and admiration for Britain. This, together with the language factor, makes Britain far the easiest and most durable Indian point of contact in the West.
- There is an Indian community of 700,000 people in this country.

These seem to be unanswerable arguments for making, as in many ways we do, quite extraordinary efforts to cultivate our relations with India – to smooth the lingering resentments and suspicions that can cause them to be so touchy with us, to go on assisting the Indian economy, and to do everything in our power to help ensure that the Sikh problem does not undo all that has been achieved. They are also arguments for the Indians giving us credit for good faith, resisting the temptation to twist our tails, and taking their relations with us seriously enough to send an active and authoritative high commissioner to London.

It seems that both sides are more aware of the force of these realities than for some time past. Nevertheless they might not have been enough to bring about a serious improvement if Mrs Thatcher and Rajiv Gandhi had not hit it off. He can admire some of the same qualities in her as he saw in his mother; she, according to a witness at Mrs Gandhi's funeral, seems to feel not only admiration but a sense of protectiveness and even responsibility for him. If these sentiments help British-Indian relations, one "realist" at least is glad to salute them.

Colin Hughes on the fight to put the NCCL back on an independent course

Civil rights for all – or only if your politics fit?



Larry Gostin: staking all on a non-partisan line. E. M. Forster and George Orwell: resigned complaining of a communist front

Since the National Council for Civil Liberties was set up 51 years ago, by left-wingers angry about alleged police brutality against hunger marchers, there has been a convenient confusion about the political buzz-phrase "civil liberties". When, for example, does a trade union's right to organize override the right to individual choice? Is freedom of speech for everyone or are there limits? Are the police and state the only institutions guilty of abusing civil liberties?

This month the NCCL will be finally confronted with this muddle of principle. How the council resolves it will determine whether it remains in a political backwater or whether it emerges into the mainstream as a rigorous defender of individual rights.

In recent years the civil rights movement has been progressively discredited as an agent solely of the left. Unable to take the mote from its own eye, for example in those fields where individual rights clash with rights of collective action, true libertarianism has been pushed to the margin of political discourse.

At the centre of the battle to push civil liberties back into the centre stage the figure of Larry Gostin, the council's new general secretary, looms large.

He has effectively staked his future in the job on tackling the untouchable issues by making clear his belief that, unless the NCCL can win support across a wide libertarian band from the "reforming Tory" to Labour's democratic socialist left, there will be no effective civil liberties campaigning force in Britain. To achieve that he believes the council must shed its "police-bashing" image, and loudly signal that it is no longer the puppet of left-wing activists or union affiliates.

True to that aim, he has, in the space of one year, run up against every possible issue guaranteed to upset the left's apple cart. He has given advice to the National Front, on the grounds that however detestable an opponent's views may be, libertarians must defend his or her right to express them. He has challenged the closed shop as "neither important or valid" as a civil liberty principle.

Worst of all he has backed an inquiry into the miners' strike which judged that the right of working miners to enter pits is equal to the strikers' right to assemble and attempt to dissuade them.

Not since 1946, when the novelists E. M. Forster and George Orwell quit the NCCL because they believed it had become a Communist Party front, has controversy raged so fiercely over the organization's future. Gostin is accused by the left of wanting to pull the council rightwards, a view he rejects. He and his supporters on the executive, led by Ian Martin, former general secretary of the Fabian Society, believe that unless the council clarifies its libertarian principles it will be confined indefinitely to the political sidelines, dismissed by the institutions it exists to criticize.

Gostin wants the council to mount effective opposition to what he sees as "the most authoritarian government" in memory, and has already set up an all-party group of MPs which will meet Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, for the first time next Monday. Tory supporters of the NCCL have made it abundantly clear that the group will suffer the same demise as its predecessors unless Gostin can carry changes through the whole council.

Without the support of those Tories faithful to what Gostin sees as a long Conservative libertarian tradition, he argues there will be no effective opposition to phone-tapping, wider definitions of subversion, attacks on freedom of speech and association for civil servants and other issues. It would also hamper an effective campaign for repeal of Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act and for a legal definition of public interest which would enable publication of information which government and other institutions would prefer to keep secret.

When last year's annual meeting passed a resolution calling for an inquiry into the civil liberties issues raised by police and court actions during the miners' strike, Gostin chose an independent team which included himself and produced an interim report last December. The left considered its findings to enshrine a "right to scab". By February the national executive carried four motions, 11 votes to five, attacking the inquiry report.

The executive said that the report was "unnecessarily damaging to the miners' cause", and exceeded its terms of reference by straying beyond issues arising solely out of police and judicial constraints on strikers. Most importantly, the left carried a motion asserting collective rights over individual ones, the touchstone of trade union sensitivity.

The bulk of the inquiry, in fact, came down hard on policing policy (such as the "dubious" legality of preventing Kent pickets from passing through the Dartford tunnel), and on the use of courts to restrict miners' freedom of movement. The key principle it underlined, however, was that any violence or intimidation of the individual is inimical to liberty, whether it be by the state, employer, or the government.

So far 10 emergency resolutions, mostly from trade union affiliates, have been tabled for this year's annual meeting, being held on April 27 and 28 at the University of London Union, nearly all supporting the executive line. Other motions will open the floor to confrontation over the closed shop and the National Front.

The question of the National Front is fraught with genuine libertarian anxiety and outright farce. Last year's annual meeting effectively censured Gostin for advising the Front, and passed a resolution that no advice should be given to any organization or individual holding racist views. This is consistent with the council's charter, which lists discrimination as a paramount target, but the definition "racist" could be interpreted so widely that a host of organizations would be excluded from contact.

Gostin's view is that the NCCL should defend freedom to speak and assemble so long as that support is not abused to restrict the liberties of others. The executive left, led by Paul Boateng, chairman of the Greater London Council police committee, and Jacob Ecclestone, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, will strive to keep Gostin on the "straight and narrow" path. Bill Birtles, the executive chairman, is meanwhile attempting to gather backing for a compromise, fearing that Gostin is rocking the boat so hard that it will capsize.

Ultimately, however, no one can predict how the membership will decide. Individual members are likely to support Gostin, but they only have one vote each. Although promotion and the 50th anniversary of the organization last year helped to boost membership from 6,000 to more than 10,000 it is unlikely that more than 300 individual members will turn up.

Trade union affiliates have block votes depending on their size, and local branches have four votes each. If Gostin wins, the odds are that many unions and the GLC, which together fund much of the council's work, will withdraw their support. Gostin supporters are cool, however, about the threat, arguing that the independence of the NCCL might be more secure if it relied on a growing membership and contributions from non-political trust funds.

The outcome of this volatile voting recipe seems set to determine whether spirited defence of civil liberties principles again becomes a leading factor in the national political arena.

moreover... Miles Kington

Exclusive: secrets to bore you stiff

Another world exclusive for Moreover! Starting next week, the peace diaries of Princess Michael of Kent's father, Baron Gunther von Reibnitz!

Enormous interest has been expressed about this man who, more than 40 years ago, may or may not have been a major in the SS, and whose daughter now plays a vital role in visiting children's homes throughout Britain. Millions of readers have rung *The Times* to ask: What did SS stand for? What was he doing in Mozambique all those years? Can she open a children's home for us?

The public has a right to know the answers. Even if they don't want to know, we have a right to force the answers on them. Accordingly, from Monday, we shall print exclusive extracts from the sensational diaries of Baron Gunther von Reibnitz, Himmler's protegé who went on to lead a reclusive existence as a farmer in Mozambique. Many army officers have gone on to make a successful career in farming, but few have given birth to a member of the Royal Family, so we feel justified in asking the searching questions: Where exactly is Mozambique? How good was the Baron's Portuguese? What exactly did he, um, do during the War?

Let us make it perfectly plain that the diaries have *not* been bought in some shady deal from a German journalist. They have, *not*, been hawked up and down Fleet Street in a tatty old folder. Nor have they been mysteriously found in a secondhand bookshop, written in dodgy handwriting. The public is sick and tired of being foisted off with diaries with a huge question hanging over them.

Let us be perfectly frank. These diaries have been created fresh and new in our literary laboratories this week. Drawing on the experience of a German linguist, a farmer and a man who stayed in Mozambique for a while, we have manufactured the diaries of Baron von Reibnitz as he would have written them if he had. They are written in longhand on German paper of the period. They are in German, with a few slang Portuguese phrases thrown in. They look convincing. They read authentically. But they are in fact fakes. We believe, however, that our readers will wish to read them.

Famed historian Lord Daquiri (Professor Tequila-Rumba) has this to say: "There is absolutely no doubt at all about the authenticity of these journals. They are out-and-out forgeries. But they make fascinating reading, if you are interested in details of farming in Mozambique in the 1950s and 1960s."

Skipping the war years, in which the Baron played a humdrum bureaucratic role in a European army, these absorbing diaries will take us straight to Portuguese East Africa and to the enormous problems faced by an army major grappling with cultivation in the African bush. We read about the difficulties of finding reliable fertilizer. We discover the heartbreak of trying to find a spare tyre for a German tractor in Portuguese territory.

But there is humour too, as on the day the Portuguese trader delivered 40,000 tins of anchovies instead of the expected fish bone meal, and when the Baron tried to teach his African workers the Viennese waltz!

Never has the agricultural infrastructure of rural Africa been exposed as it is in these ruthlessly honest journals. For the first time we learn what it is really like to be three days journey from the nearest blacksmith, and the amazing rituals surrounding the manufacture of a scarecrow in Africa.

These diaries may shock. They may disturb. They may even cause the odd raised eyebrow. They may even confuse you, especially as we have not yet had time to translate them into English. But one thing is certain: journalism will never be quite the same again. Don't miss Monday's Moreover!

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TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
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DOES THIS PIG HAVE WINGS?

Defence officials from five nations meet in Madrid today in an eleventh-hour attempt to save the Future European Fighter Aircraft (FEFA) from being shot down before it even leaves the drawing board. Ahead of them, to concentrate their minds, is the meeting in Rome on May 16, at which their defence ministers will have to decide whether FEFA will ever fly. But behind them lies a sorry tale of European disunity and infighting.

The officials, from Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and Spain have two sets of specifications before them. One is already accepted by Britain, West Germany, Italy and Spain. The other is drawn up by France. The first describes what is generally known these days as an air-superiority fighter, capable - or so it is hoped - of fending off Soviet MIGs in the skies above Central Europe and on Nato's flanks. The second is a lighter, less ambitious French design, the Avion de Combat Experimentale (ACX) which the French Air Force wants as a replacement for its existing fleet of Jaguar ground-attack aircraft. Which one does Europe choose?

There have already been compromises - but mostly, complain the British, by the four who have given way to French intransigence. They have, for instance accepted the French argument for a weight limit of 9½ tons - though this is one ton lighter than the RAF would prefer.

But there are so far no signs of compromise over whose basic design should be accepted, over the right kind of engine to power it or the sharing of the work among the five – despite a flurry of private meetings between British and French ministers and even between the chairman of British Aerospace and Dassault. Meanwhile the British and French – Western Europe's two most important planemakers – are trying to woo the support of the other three powers. The West Germans particularly could decide the issue.

The British suspect that the French are interested only in acquiring Rolls Royce engine technology "on the cheap" for their own ailing engine firm Snecma. Having learned all they need, the French – it is argued – would then abandon the project – unless they get exactly what they want – and go ahead with ACX on their own. They would be in a better position to do this because the ACX – if not as impressive a weapon to pit against the Russians – would stand a better chance of sales to the Third World.

On the other hand it is also true that the RAF, when talks started in the 1970s, had in mind a Jaguar replacement rather closer to that now being put together in Paris. So it is arguable that it is not the French but the British who have strayed from the original concept.

So what are the options, assuming that a unanimous solution fails to emerge from today's meeting of the National Armament Directors in Madrid? One of them is for the French to stalk out of FEFA, leaving British Aerospace to steer the others towards their agreed objective. This would depend heavily on the West Germans who have so far sided with the French on any questions of compromise. But the last meeting of officials in Paris in March was such a disaster that they might now have changed their minds.

Another is for Britain and the others to subordinate all other considerations to the cause of European unity and agree to the French proposal. But this would mean virtually surrendering leadership in the European aerospace industry to France – which has recently dominated the civil aircraft sector through its leadership in the airbus.

If the other three, who have less investment to lose, gave in to Dassault, Britain could try to put together a rival consortium on its own – perhaps recruiting the Dutch, Belgians, Danes and Norwegians who, by 1995, might want a replacement for their American F-16s. But this looks no more than a remote possibility.

A fourth would be for British Aerospace to go it alone. This would be technically feasible. But the RAF order is only 250 and does not sound a cost effective option – given that even FEFA with a production run of 1,000 would mean for Britain development costs of £1,000 million plus £8 million for each plane.

Finally the RAF could buy American – as the West Germans who are increasingly frustrated by the arguments, are considering. An American fighter would probably be cheaper and technically superior – and jobs in British Aerospace could be saved by building the aircraft here under licence. But it would be another blow to British design teams and would run counter to the European philosophy which is supposed to be underpinning FEFA.

There is of course a sixth possibility which is that the five governments, hell bent on collaboration, insist on such compromises that the heralded Eurofighter ends up looking like a politicians' dream but a pilots' nightmare. But that would surely be self-defeating.

There are genuine problems over co-ordinating the requirements of five air forces and satisfying the demands of their associated industries. The tragedy is that if Europe so dismally fails to solve them the technology gap between the Old World and the New will grow even wider than it is now, and that is wide enough.

GO TO WORK ON A THINK TANK

The Government need have no immediate fears at the formation of the all-party Employment Institute. Any team which is led by Mrs Shirley Williams, Mr Michael Meacher and Sir Ian Gilmour is unlikely to play the same game for long enough to inflict serious damage on its opponents. As we have seen this week, Mr Meacher has the greatest difficulty playing alongside his own Shadow Cabinet colleagues.

Yet the Prime Minister and the Chancellor would do well not to let the new Institute slip entirely from their sights. Although it may be presented by some of its supporters as an anti-Thatcher coalition it does not appear to have begun life as that alone. Its academic and ex-mandarin backers clearly believe that the intellectual case against the Government's view of unemployment has been badly put in recent years. They are right. Since the last election we have seen sporadic fireworks from Mr Hattersley, the occasional graven tablet from Mr Heath and the usual mystic words of code from Mr Pym. Co-ordination has been poor. The Prime Minister can always respond as she did yesterday, that there is no easy solution to unemployment for such an Institute to discover. Nor is there, but every good case profits from rigorous cross-examination.

The new Institute should also be welcomed as an admission that the free-market philosophies of the Institute of Economic Affairs, The Centre for Policy Studies and the Adam Smith Institute have sunk deeper into the political woodwork than the opposing forces have hitherto cared to admit. The National Institute of Economic and Social Research, the one time fount of facts and inspiration for the centre-left is no longer the force that it was. While new forms can hardly be guaranteed to provide new substance it is not hard to see why it now seems a good time to try for something new.

The Government's academic opponents at least seem to have learnt the lessons of the round robin by 364 economists in March 1981, which began with a bang and ended as quickly. Then it was as though the spirit of policies past had only to raise its head for the upstart monetarists to flee in disarray. Now the Keynesians know better. By setting up a permanent research base they hope to be able to provide a consistent stream of analysis with which to press home their attacks.

The balance that needs to be achieved between campaigning and researching is, of course, critical. If its researchers come from too broad a church, it will be the mere talking shop that its critics dubbed it yesterday. If it is too narrow the all-party coalition will not stand the strain.

The mainspring of the Institute comes from inside the Social Democratic Party, some of whose luminaries are as determined as the Prime Minister to iron out the rigidities and over-regulation which so hold back the supply of goods in the British economy. Some members of the Conservative left and the Labour right are also anxious that the Government should not be handed the whole of the "supply side" as its undisputed territory. A greater degree of consensus here would be highly desirable. It could even sharpen the Government's presentation of its own case which has long suffered for lack of critics with whom it could conduct a real dialogue.

It is too early to judge what contribution the new Employment Institute can make to the study of why so many men and women at home and abroad are without gainful employment. But by including representatives of the Labour left it has already delivered a warning that the short term aim of making the Government seem as isolated as possible may dominate the longer term ambition of wresting intellectual ground from the IEA and its friends. The first is a political assault that will fail: the second could produce a battle of ideas that will benefit all.

A MINEFIELD OF MEMORIES

It is proving anything but easy to strike the right official note for the fortieth anniversary of the allied victory over Nazi Germany. The main awkwardness lies between the Soviet Union and her allies in that war in the two very different spirits in which the occasion is approached. The Russians are disposed to celebrate a great military victory (which it was), and, since they bore the brunt of the land fighting, to belittle the feats performed by their western allies of that time. They also wish to recall the terrible price they paid for their military inferiority at the outbreak of war, and to proclaim the lesson Never Again. The western allies, mindful that the greater and more vital part of the nation that was their enemy is now their friend and ally, have sought to make it a celebration of peace, the rebirth of western Europe in liberty, and reconciliation between former enemies.

In consequence, the two differently inspired forms of commemoration are being left to go their separate ways with no real attempt to join them together or give a kiss of life to the corpse of that grand alliance if convenience. There will be no United States representation even where the Russian and American armies met on the Elbe in April 1945. The killing of Major Nicholson, US Army, by a Russian border guard in East Germany last month put paid to that.

Even within the present western alliance strong cross currents make the waters choppy, as President Reagan has found to his discomfort. He has an official visit to West Germany in May a few days before the anniversary date of 1945. The symbolism of his engagements there has baffled his own instincts and the wits of his protocol advisers.

Remembering that official Germany had been mortified by exclusion from the anniversary celebrations last year of the Normandy landings, the President turned down the opportunity he was offered on this visit to lay a wreath at the Dachau concentration camp. The ceremony might give the "wrong signal" to the Germany of 1985 towards which the President wants to emphasize not German war guilt but mutual reconciliation. When later it was arranged that he would lay a wreath at the German military cemetery at Bitburg, which includes its complement of Waffen SS graves, it was forcefully impressed upon him that he had misread the sensitivities of the German people and for good measure his own also. A visit to a concentration camp has now been restored to his programme.

His arrangements were made with a notable absence of finesse. Yet he deserves some sympathy in his predicament. Two currents of feeling are generated by reflection on the anniversary of 1945 which are to some extent at odds. Both are generous in impulse, both command respect. One finds cause for celebration in the liberation of Europe and the transformation of the German polity. It would confirm the reconciliation that has occurred and is careful not to hang the historical crimes of the Third Reich round the neck of later generations of Germans. The other insists that the crimes of Nazi-dominated Germany shall never be forgotten, and that the sufferings of the victims can never be assuaged. The difference, though one more of emphasis than direction, is sharp. It is no wonder if the President has failed to hit upon a symbolism for his public arrangements that does justice to both emphases in the judgement of all.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Exploiting science as base for wealth

From Dr K. A. Harrap

Sir, I am an unashamed Sir Douglas Hague supporter ("Industry Today", April 3) and I fear the response of Professor Denis Noble (April 13) to his analysis was entirely predictable. It is sad that the university I love should have so recently orchestrated a fit of pique for the benefit of this "scientific and educational nation". Those responsible should know better. I regard them as yesterday's men of science.

The problem facing UK civil science is simple. Scientists have been accustomed, as have our universities, to one paymaster – the Government. When that paymaster, under pressure from declining resources and competing needs, reneges on the traditional arrangements it creates a major difficulty. But the answer is not simply to bleat or cry "foul".

The response of scientists should be to accept the challenge and do something about it. They are a fit, able and creative group of people who must come low in any national pecking order deserving of support by the taxpayer. What is needed is for the UK scientific community to embrace the idea of scientific research generating wealth rather than utilising it.

My 17 years as a researcher at Oxford and, more recently, three years as head of marketing for the Natural Environment Research Council, have confirmed my feeling that too much scientific activity is an indulgence in self-glorification. Successful scientists value most the reverement of their peers, their name in print in learned journals, the invitation to organise an international meeting and so on. I know this for I have done it myself.

My case is that scientists in this country need a new vision. It is vital that they publicly emphasise their wealth-generating capability not only for the national good (and this is certainly needed if we are to succeed as a country in an increasingly competitive world) but also to demonstrate to the public and its Government that science is good value.

The wealth base so generated can be used to fund the curiosity-oriented research that so many of us want. But, more importantly, the case for underpinning basic science from public funds would be greatly strengthened as a result.

By any internationally accepted standard the British are a scientifically creative nation. Our problem is converting this intellectual strength into commercial success. Publicly funded scientists themselves must show that they can do this and that they believe in it. If this means that for a while the cutting edge of blue skies research becomes somewhat blunted I would agree with Sir Douglas Hague – so be it.

Yours sincerely,
K. A. HARRAP,
Wolfson College,
Oxford.
April 17.

Experiments on animals

From the Executive Director of the RSPCA

Sir, I am sorry to note a serious inaccuracy in your article (April 15) on tighter curbs on animal experimentation implying that the RSPCA supports a new code for animals.

The RSPCA has not seen, officially or unofficially, this new code and would be unlikely to offer "support" to the sort of limited Government measure suggested, since it would not fulfil our policies. When we do see the code, we will of course offer constructive criticism.

The RSPCA does not see itself as one of the "moderate groups" on this subject. We seek radical change, but by pragmatic means – i.e., attaining the attainable.

Yours faithfully,
F. DIXON WARD,
Executive Director,
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,
Causeway,
Horsham,
West Sussex.
April 15.

All in the mind

From Mr Richard Need

Sir, If a friend tells me that he had "only a handful" of plums from his tree last year I know what image he is trying to conjure up: a hand with five or six plums in it. It is then for me to decide how literally to take his complaint.

But what sort of mental picture am I meant to form when writers and broadcasters talk of "a handful of companies", "a handful of frigates" or "a handful of television programmes"?

During the miners' strike a BBC reporter added to my bewilderment by telling me that there were "literally only a handful of pickets at the gate – about two hundred!"

Yours from one of a handful of large Surrey towns,
RICHARD NEED,
49 Bonner Hill Road,
Kingston upon Thames,
Surrey.
April 14.

What Oscar said

From Mr Augustus Chaine

Sir, Mr Esdaile's letter (April 6) indeed sounds a little like Oscar. But as one who has read, and seen, all his works, I think nowhere will he find the vulgarity – "lunch".

Even from the next world Oscar would, I submit, have said – "luncheon".

Yours faithfully,
AUGUSTUS CHAINE,
33 Avenue Jean de Noailles,
06400 Cannes,
France.
April 8.

Royal disclosure and public interest

From the Publisher of Mirror Group Newspapers

Sir, Under the appropriately tendentious heading "Mudslingers Inc" your third leader (April 17) takes the opportunity, not for the first time, of using your columns to make snide insinuations about the ownership of the *Daily Mirror* and the relevance of a bank account in Liechtenstein. That subject was forcefully dealt with in a letter which you published several weeks ago (February 22). It provoked no reply, presumably because there was none. I therefore leave that subject in the mud where you deposited it.

I am more concerned with the logic of the remainder of your leader. It begins by accepting unreservedly that the *Daily Mirror's* disclosure that the father of Princess Michael was an SS major was legitimate, however embarrassing to the royal family. It then appears to withdraw that conclusion, under the guise of criticizing the "manner of the disclosure".

By this you appear to mean that it is irrelevant whether or not, prior to the marriage, Princess Michael was aware of her father's history; that history should not in any event be held against her. What is that unless it is a criticism of the disclosure itself?

Let me state clearly the *Daily Mirror's* view. This is, first, that it does matter whether or not Princess Michael knew. It was surely inexcusable, if she did know, to fail to reveal the facts.

You surely cannot be contending that the royal family and the British public had no right to decide for itself whether it approved of an alliance between the royal family and the daughter of a Nazi SS major. The *Daily Mirror* is entitled to its view, as you are to yours, of the likelihood or otherwise that Princess Michael did not know of her father's history.

Secondly, we wholly agree with those who say that the sins of the parent should not be visited on the children. But neither should they be visited on the British royal family. That is the gravamen of the *Daily Mirror's* case.

Whether we like it or not, those who are close to the throne have a special duty, painfully recognised and accepted as recently as in 1936, to avoid liaisons which could devalue the standing of that family from whom we derive our monarchs.

The truth is that Caesar's wife must be beyond the very shadow of suspicion; not for her sake, but for Caesar's. The *Daily Mirror* would have been entirely wrong to keep its silence when there were plainly matters of genuine public interest to be examined.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MAXWELL,
Mirror Group Newspapers,
Holborn Circus, EC1.
April 17.

From Mr David Williamson

Sir, We all have thousands of ancestors and many "black sheep" among them. The fact that one of Princess Michael's "black sheep" happens to be her father is neither here nor there.

I very much doubt if Mr Philip Hall has studied Her Royal Highness's ancestry in every line for ten generations as I have. If he had, he would know that the number of her ancestors who have long, selfless and distinguished service to their sovereigns and their countries far surpasses any others.

The Princess is, for example, a direct descendant of a sister of the tragic Princesse de Lamballe, the devoted friend of Queen Marie Antoinette, who was butchered during the reign of terror in Paris. Many more examples could be cited.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WILLIAMSON, Co-Editor,
Debrett's Peerage Limited,
73/77 Britannia Road, SW6.
April 16.

From Mr Michael Stourton

Sir, The nauseating hue and cry over the possible or alleged activities of Princess Michael's parent ("did the Princess know?" etc) makes one wonder if we have perhaps forgotten that features of Nazi Germany were press vilification and character assassination.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL STOURTON,
The Old Rectory,
Great Rollright,
Oxfordshire.
April 17.

Postal ballots

From Lord Beloff, FBA

Sir, Whether or not there has been malpractice in the election to the general secretaryship of the Transport and General Workers' Union, it is clear that the system itself is open to abuse. It may be worth recalling that the objection to workplace ballots was fully voiced during the passage of what became last year's Trade Union Act.

An amendment making secret postal ballots mandatory was introduced by me during the passage of the Bill in the House of Lords, after receiving much advice and help from the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union and other union sources. The amendment was supported in all parts of the House and carried against an unholy combination of ministers and the Labour front bench.

Instead of acting upon this prompting, the Government used the threat of its Commons majority and the wish of its followers in the Lords not to endanger the passage of the Bill as a whole, to persuade its supporters that a much watered down commitment to postal ballots as merely the *preferred* method would suffice.

Why they took this view, it is not for me to speculate. But surely now, rather than deploring evidence of ballot-rigging, it is the duty of the Government to deal with this problem once and for all by itself introducing an amendment to the 1984 Act which would, under independent supervision, make postal ballots a statutory requirement, with such exceptions for particular circumstances as further consultations might suggest were desirable.

Yours truly,
BELOFF,
House of Lords.

Stopping Gulf war

From Mr Iradj Bagherzade

Sir, You are to be applauded for drawing such prominent attention (April 10) to the reports of the damage inflicted on the Friday Mosque in Isfahan. It is difficult to convey the horror which all who have an awareness of Persian art and architecture will feel at this news.

The Friday Mosque, an extraordinarily important and well preserved example of 12th century Seljuk architecture, is one of the jewels of the Islamic world. That it should now fall victim to a senseless act of destruction reflects the madness of the age.

Your own indignation, though welcome, does not go far enough. After all, the Iraqi planes and bombs responsible for the attack were not of Iraqi manufacture. Nor have the Iranians manufactured the missiles and spare parts which sustain their war effort.

The only way to stop the senseless destruction of human beings and irreplaceable art treasures in the Iran-Iraq war is for all arms-manufacturing nations to impose and adhere to an embargo on arms supplies to the two belligerents and for them to further ensure that their regional client states and freelance arms merchants do not circumvent such an embargo.

Until the simple reality is accepted that without foreign supplied arms neither one of the bizarre regimes engaged in the Gulf war can continue to indulge itself in trying to bring the other to heel, then the most well intentioned expressions of indignation will merely sound like empty pieties.

Yours faithfully,
IRADJ BAGHERZADE,
153 New Bond Street, W1.
April 11.

Faith and uncertainty

From the Reverend John Campbell

Sir, I was sorry to read during the octave of Easter the letter from the Archbishop of York (April 10) which sought somewhat obliquely to justify the statements made about the Resurrection by the Bishop of Durham and other "doubting bishops".

Bishops are guardians of the faith of the Church and as such they do not have the right to express doubts about it, nor do they have the right to dismiss in prejorative language such as "narrow-minded Christians" or Christians with a "closeted faith", those who disagree with them. There is much sound scholarship in these ranks, as your recently published article by Dr John Stott (April 16) gave evidence.

As a very ordinary incumbent, I have found that the real scandal which comes from statements made by "doubting bishops" is that many of my faithful parishioners are perplexed and distressed by these pronouncements. The front-line mission of the Church to present the Gospel of the risen Christ takes place in ordinary parishes up and down the land.

We need support from our bishops and not perverse statements which appear to be designed to catch the headlines.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN F. CAMPBELL,
The Rectory,
177 Newbridge Hill,
Bath,
Avon.
April 12.

Trends in turnout

From Professor G. W. Jones and Professor J. D. Stewart

Sir, At a time when there is a very proper concern about local accountability, it is a serious deficiency that there is no longer any official record available at the national level of turnout in local elections.

This information used to be collected and published by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, but it was stopped by the present Government, apparently as an economy measure. It has now become a major research project to obtain and analyse trends in turnout.

We hope that the Government, if it is sincere in its concern for local accountability, will again collect the information and make it available on a regular basis. Failing that, we urge that it be collected by the representative bodies of local government.

We use your columns to propose a meeting between the local authority associations, the DoE and OPCS to discuss how this information can best be collected and published, so that we may know what is happening to turnout in local elections. Without this information we can say very little about local accountability.

Yours faithfully,
G. W. JONES,
J. D. STEWART (Institute of Local Government Studies, University of Birmingham),
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.
April 11.

ON THIS DAY

APRIL 19 1860

[SAYERS v HEENAN]

On April 17 1860 Tom Sayers, champion of England, fought the American John C. Heenan at Farnborough, Hampshire. It was the first international fight in the history of boxing – it was also to be the last great encounter under the rules of the Prize Ring; a few years later, under Queensberry Rules, bare knuckles were to give way to gloves and knock-down round endings to those of three minutes. The fight was against the law and in fact it was rendered inconclusive by the intervention of the police after 42 rounds lasting nearly three hours during which Sayers had had one arm smashed and Heenan had one eye battered into uselessness. The next day The Times *report ran to over 6,000 words; not content with such lavish coverage, the paper, on April 19, had a leading article on the contest. Its weighty, sonorous reflections opened with a spate of analogies drawing on Darwin, the Quakers, Rousseau and heraldry, closing with a homily on the shortcomings of individuals and nations. The final words came from Sayers who in a letter to the Editor of May 7 wrote "... In your description of that conflict you drew a picture the like of which the sporting world never saw before..."*

... Crowds thronged the streets, and pressed against the doors of the newspaper-offices, where the sheets wet from the press, were distributed to eager buyers. On every countenance there was an expression of excitement, violent discussions were going on, and triumph or chagrin was in the air of each. What could it be about? Such an assemblage was hardly witnessed when the crown of LOUIS PHILIPPE fell into the gutter, or when the Allies stormed Sebastopol. Surely LOUIS NAPOLEON had threatened the Rhine, or at least the British Cabinet had fallen a victim to some internal feud! No; it was simply that two professional gladiators had mauled each other for two hours that morning, and the newspapers were publishing the narrative with more or less felicity of slang. To see this encounter a large body of people had started from town before dawn, in a train supplied by a decorous and dignified railway company, and though the whole civil force of the South of England were on the alert, the fight had taken place. The continental might well wonder at the civilization and the administrative system of the country in which he had arrived. But it is not only strangers who are astonished at the occurrence of such an event in our advanced stage of civilization. Many excellent persons among our own countrymen are shocked at the outbreak of passions and the sudden revival of tastes which it was thought that education had banished from society. We are asked how it is that such proceedings as those of Tuesday pass without the denunciation of the public press – why the conniving Executive, the abetting railway company, and the whole band of gentlemen who assisted at the terrible sight are not held up to reprobation, as they deserve. We answer that the very universality of the interest taken in the fight is a proof that the exhibition was different from others of its kind. Thousands of people read the narrative we published yesterday who probably had not for years, or perhaps in their lives, perused the details of a prize fight. Their curiosity was roused, not by prize-fighting generally, but by the circumstances of this singular encounter. We have no fear that the result will be to restore the faded glories of the prize ring. The feeling is that the whole affair is an anomaly as much as the EGLINTOUN tournament; that one such display is enough, and that the pugilistic fraternity must not expect magisterial forbearance if they attempt to repeat it...

Whether it be a battle between pugilists on a county border, or a war between empires for the supremacy of Europe, men will interest themselves in the struggles of strength and courage. Nor is poor TOM SAYERS standing up against his gigantic antagonist, and coming up round after round to receive "punishment" an unworthy object of admiration. These men display in their miserable trade qualities which on a better field make individuals and nations great. That amid debauchery and drunkenness and petty gambling these virtues of courage, endurance, and fair play should be cultivated, and carried to their highest point, shows that there is indeed a soul of goodness in things evil. England and America have many a better arena for rivalry than the boxers' ring, but still nations without great qualities could not have brought together two men willing to pass through such an ordeal as the terrible fight of Tuesday. Nor are there wanting fields of contention which, though more reputable than the prize ring, are not more worthy of our regard. The apostles of progress would bring us to a state in which all worldly success, all distinction, all influence over mankind would depend only on shrewdness and quickness, applied principally to the acquisition of wealth. Yet, what is competition but a fight, and a fight in which the laws of fair play are too often disregarded? When we see the manufacturer distancing his rival by the sale of short measures, or the speculator made rich by a bubble which ruins hundreds when it bursts, we cannot think that a world where such men flourish will have any reason to boast even though the prize ring be a forgotten institution.

In the preamble to "On this Day" on April 16 the Titanic's position should have read: 41.46N 50.14W.

Homeric lines

From Mr Leonard Blundun

Sir, The following pair of telegrams, exchanged many years ago between a boarder at school and his brother at home, combines 1, a piece of vital bad news; 2, an anxious request; 3, an assurance, somehow double-edged, that the request has been complied with; and 4, an austere but heavily laden warning; not to mention 5, a consecutive tenfold alliteration; 6, a dramatic syntactical reversal; and 7, a climax promising imminent misery for one brother but conceivably mischievous enjoyment for the other; the whole producing, in a mere eight words, a sort of Homeric poetry, sung to the gentle humming of the telegraph lines:

Failed exam prepare Papa.
Papa prepared prepare yourself.

Yours faithfully,
LEONARD BLUNDUN,
5 Meynell Crescent, E9.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 18: The Life President of the Republic of Malawi visited the Reading Cattle Breeding Centre, Shinfield this morning.

His Excellency was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the Royal County of Berkshire (Colonel the Hon Gordon Palmer) and the Director of the Centre (Dr P. H. Lamont).

Afterwards, The Life President of the Republic of Malawi, accompanied by the Official Hostess (Miss C. Tamanda Kadzamira), was entertained at luncheon at Shire Hall, Shinfield Park, Reading by the Chairman of the Royal Berkshire County Council (Mr Ian Morgan).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were entertained at a Banquet this evening by The Life President of the Republic of Malawi at Claridge's.

The Duchess of Grafton and the Right Hon Sir Philip Moore were in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Skelmersdale (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this morning upon the departure of The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, for Hungary and bade farewell to Her Royal Highness on behalf of Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 18: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, left Heathrow Airport, London, this morning in a BAe 146 aircraft of British Aerospace, to visit Hungary.

Her Royal Highness was received at the Airport by His Excellency Dr Matyas Domokos (Ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic) and Madame Domokos. Sir John Stow (Special Representative of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), Mr B. G. Thomas (Director, British Aerospace plc), and Mr Allan Munds (Deputy Director, British Airports Authority).

The Hon Mrs Whitehead, Major the Lord Napier and Ettrick and Group Captain Jeremy Jones were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
April 18: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were entertained at a Banquet this evening by The Life President of the Republic of Malawi at Claridge's.

Lady Harlech thanks all those who wrote to her following the deaths of both her husband and her father. She regrets she is unable to reply personally to them all.

There will be a memorial service for Peter Bevis at St Paul's, Covent Garden on Wednesday, April 24 at noon.

A memorial service for Paull Harrap will be held at noon today at St Clement Danes, Strand.

A memorial service for Captain T. L. Lonsdale will be held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Monday, April 22, at noon.

Dinners

Shipwrights' Company
Mr R. C. L. Charvet was installed as Prime Warden of the Shipwrights' Company for the ensuing year at a meeting held yesterday in Ironmongers' Hall. Mr D. B. Kimber, Rear Admiral Sir Morgan Morgan-Giles, Mr G. R. Newman and Mr F. M. Everard were appointed Wardens. The Prime Warden presented a past Prime Warden's badge to Mr J. E. Neary at a dinner held later. The toast to the guests was proposed by Mr B. F. Shaw to which Captain J. L. Weatherall, RN, Commanding Officer, HMS Ark Royal, replied and proposed a toast to the company. The Master replied. Other guests included:
The Prime Warden of the Fishermongers' and the Masters of the Watermen and Lightermen's, Fletchers', Basketmakers', Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' and Solicitors' companies, the Town Clerk, Lord Mayor's Chaplain, the Chairman of the Port of London Authority, the Governor of HM Tower of London and Colonel Thacker.

Institute of Jewish Affairs
Sir Sigmund Sternberg was host at a dinner held by the Institute of Jewish Affairs yesterday at the Royal Overseas League in honour of Dr Gerhart M. Riegner, former Secretary General of the World Jewish Congress, who lectured that evening to the institute on the present state of Christian-Jewish relations.

Royal Institute of British Architects
The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Mr Michael Manser, and Mrs Manser gave a dinner party at the institute yesterday. Those present were:
Mr Peter Ahrends, Miss Anna Benson Cyles, Miss Diana Cosser, Sir Richard and Lady Cave, M Gilles Chouraqui, Mr Roger Norrington, Mr and Mrs Larry Rolland and Mr Patrick Harrison

British Medical Association
The chief officers, and secretary of the BMA and editor of the *British Medical Journal* gave a dinner yesterday for principal advisers. Among those present were:
Mr Charles Butcher, Dr J M Clubb, Mr Roger Davies, Mr J B Diamond, Mr B A Gillard, Mr A H Hoole, Dr D H Marsden, Dr I F Phillips, Mrs Sheila Quinn, and Mr E B O Sherlock and Lord Wigoder

Printers' Charitable Corporation
The annual boxing dinner of the Printers' Charitable Corporation was held last night at the Café Royal. Mr Norman Garrod, chairman, presided in the absence of Mr Rupert Murdoch, president. Among those present were:
Sir Edward Pickering, Sir Eric Cheadle, Mr Bruce Matthews, Mr George Elrick, Mr John Wrehard, Mr David Jones, Captain Dan Bradley, RN, director and secretary

Insurers' Company
The Duke of Norfolk, Prime Warden-elect of the Fishmongers' Company, and the Duchess of Norfolk were present at a livery dinner given at the Mansion House yesterday, by the Master of the Insurers' Company, Mr Julius A. S. Neave, the Wardens and court of assistants. Commander and Alderman Sir Robin Gillett, Bt, RNR, representing the Lord Mayor, was among those present, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies.

International Military Services Limited
Mr Keith Walley, Chairman of International Military Services, presided yesterday at a dinner held at Goldsmiths' Hall and proposed a toast to the guests. The Hon Adam Butler, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, replied on behalf of the guests, who included:
Viscount Garmoyle, Lord Fanshawe of Richmond, Sir Frank Cooper, Rear Admiral Sir Peter Anson, Sir Basil Blackwell, Sir James Blyth, Sir Richard Cave, Sir Kenneth Cork, Sir Philip Foreman, Sir Ian Morrow, Sir Max Williams, Mr J D Alun-Jones, Mr M W Clark, Mr F Clarke, Mr I J Fraser, Mr P N Levene, Mr T Mayer, Mr R O C Mowbray, Mr C R Reeves and Mr R E J Roberts.

Service Dinners

Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785
A dinner was held at Whitbread's Brewery yesterday to commemorate the Yangtse gunboats. Rear Admiral F B P Brayne-Nicholls presided and the guest was Sir Michael Hogan.

HQRAF Support Command
Air Vice-Marshal G Livingston, Principal Medical Officer, Headquarters Royal Air Force Support Command, and members of Brampton Park Officers' Mess held a dinner last night. Group Captain J H Constable presided.

RAF Abingdon
Air Vice-Marshal J R Walker, Senior Air Staff Officer, HQ RAF Strike Command, was the guest of honour at the Jaguar Aircraft dinner held at RAF Abingdon last night. British and French industrialists, civil servants and serving officers from both nations attended. Squadron Leader B Trench presided.

Reception

All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club
The annual dinner of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club was held yesterday evening at the Institute of Directors. Mr R. E. H. Hadingham, chairman, presided. Mr J. R. Cochrane proposed the toast to the guests and the guest of honour, Viscount Whitelaw, CH, replied.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr R. C. A. Henderson and Miss A. J. Whiting
The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Lord and Lady Henderson of Brompton and Anita, eldest daughter Mr and Mrs A. G. S. Whiting of Edgwater, Midleton, Co. Cork.

Mr T. R. Bacon and Miss M. R. O. Grant
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of the late Christopher Bacon and of Mrs Christopher Bacon, of Ramsden Farm, Ebony, Tenterden, Kent and Marylyn, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs Arthur Grant, of Trecarrell, St Just-in-Roseland, Cornwall.

Mr M. N. Barker and Miss N. Johnston
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of the late Mr Randulph B. Barker and Mrs R. P. Barker, of Winchester, Hampshire, and Nicola, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. A. Johnston, of Ripley, Surrey.

Mr T. J. Clutterham and Miss S. P. Lockhart
The engagement is announced between Terence, only son of the late Mr William Clutterham and of Mrs Rosalind J. Lusher, of Cromer and Susan, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs Keith T. Lockhart, of Exeter.

Mr D. Deans and Miss J. Pilkington
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs T. R. Deans, of Hayling Island and Heather younger daughter of the Rev J. R. and Mrs Pilkington, of Portsmouth.

Mr M. G. Dixon and Miss V. M. Wright
The engagement is announced between Malcolm, only son of Mr and Mrs G. W. Dixon, of Willaston, Wirral, and Vanessa, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P. W. Wright, of Sutton Coldfield.

Lieutenant J. W. H. Fawcett, RM and Miss B. A. Hamm
The engagement is announced between John Wyndham Henry Fawcett, Royal Marines, son of Captain and Mrs Michael Fawcett of Rotherwick, Basingstoke, Hampshire, and Belinda Ann, only daughter of Mr and Mrs P. E. C. Hamm, of Burwood Park, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

Mr D. W. Grant and Miss L. Ll. Fox
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Grant, and Laetitia, daughter of Mr David Fox and Mrs Rosalind Fox, all of Somerset.

Mr J. H. Hollands and Miss J. Fairbank
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, younger son of Mr and Mrs D. S. Hollands, of Moor Park, Hertfordshire, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. H. Fairbank, of East Sutton, Kent.

Mr A. A. Kain and Miss B. J. Haines
The engagement is announced between Andrew, only son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Kain, of the Isle of Mull, and Bethan, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Howell Haines, of Hereford.

Mr J. C. Laarberg and Miss P. Grundy
The engagement is announced between Jan, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. G. Laarberg, of Bemmel, Netherlands, and Patricia, daughter of Mr and Mrs V. A. Grundy, of Penn, Buckinghamshire.

Mr D. M. Lamb and Miss P. J. Ashcroft
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr G. D. Lamb, of South Yorkshire, and Mrs M. Lamb, of Sussex, and Jill, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs K. Ashcroft, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Mr T. J. Le Coq and Miss N. P. R. King
The engagement is announced between Toby, younger son of Major and Mrs J. A. G. Le Coq, of Seething Manor, Norfolk, and Nina, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Raymond King, of Lime Tree Road, Norwich.

Mr P. J. Luff and Miss E. J. Burgar
The engagement is announced between Peter, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. E. Luff, of St. Germans, Cornwall, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. G. Burgar, of Perth, Western Australia.

Mr R. E. Nuttall and Miss G. C. Baxter
The engagement is announced between Rupert Ellis, son of Mr A. E. S. Nuttall, of Hedge Farm, Pylle, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, and Mrs S. F. Maude, of Ash Cross House, Petrockstowe, Devon, stepson of Mrs A. E. S. Nuttall, and Georgina Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. D. Baxter, of Longburton House, Sherborne, Dorset.

Mr T. J. Powell and Miss G. M. Gammie
The engagement is announced between Timothy John, son of Major and Mrs J. Powell, of Tatsfield, Surrey, and Gillian Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. A. Gammie, of Purley, Surrey.

Mr J. F. O'Donoghue and Miss S. A. L. Black
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr J. J. O'Donoghue, of Dublin, and Sarah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Alastair Black, of South Lodge, Effingham, Surrey.

Mr R. L. Scarlett-Smith and Mrs J. A. Whelleck
The engagement is announced between Roger Lidderdale, son of the late Mr Sidney Scarlett-Smith, and of Mrs Barbara Scarlett-Smith, of Hampstead, London, and Jennifer Ann, elder daughter of the late Mr Ernest Hill and of Mrs Mary Hill, of Vancouver, British Columbia.

Mr A. K. Slater and Miss J. K. Brown
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Slater, of Felixstowe, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Brown, of Cretingham.

Mr S. Stevenson and Miss H. L. Wilson
The engagement is announced between Shannan, younger son of Commander and Mrs R. S. Stevenson, of Green Hammerton, Yorkshire, and Hannah, daughter of the Rev Canon and Mrs A. M. S. Wilson, of Preston, Rutland.

Mr D. E. J. Thompson and Miss D. E. Bell
The engagement is announced between David Edward John, eldest son of the Rev E. R. C. and Mrs Thompson, of St Mary's House, Herne Hill, London, and Diana Elisabeth, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. Bell, of La Hure, Torteval, Guernsey.

Mr F. J. Triay and Miss J. M. Wisniewska
The engagement is announced between Francis Javier, son of Mr and Mrs J. E. Triay, of Gibraltar, and Joanna Maria, daughter of Mr and Mrs Z. H. Wisniewski, of Cambridge.

Mr R. R. Wilsdon and Miss C. Merson
The engagement is announced between Richard Ralph, son of Dr R. B. N. Wilsdon and the late Mrs Marianne Wilsdon, of Easby House, Great Ayton, North Yorkshire, and Claire, daughter of Dr and Mrs R. D. Merson, of Wendover, Hilton in Cleveland.

Latest appointments



Mr Basil Bean (above), Chief Executive of the Merseyside Development Corporation, has been appointed to succeed Mr Andrew Tait as Director-General of the National House-Building Council.

Birthdays today

Miss Sue Barker, 29; Mr C. I. C. Bosanquet, 82; Mr Algy Cluff, 45; Mr Tim Curry, 39; Colonel D. J. Dean, VC, 58; Mr Glyn England, 64; Sir Andrew Gilchrist, 75; Sir John Griffin, QC, 82; Mr S. C. Harpley, 58; Sir Thomas Hopkinson, 80; Dr John Horlock, 57; Mrs Margo MacDonald, 41; Colonel C. T. Mitford-Slade, 82; Mr Dudley Moore, 50; Sir Joseph Nickerson, 71; Professor A. W. Wilkinson, 71; Lieutenant-General Sir John Woodall, 88.

University news

York
Professor W. K. Hayman, professor of pure mathematics at Imperial College, London, to be appointed to a chair in pure mathematics on a part-time basis for five years from October.

Grant
Department of Health and Social Security: £208,775 to Professor J R Bradshaw for the social policy research unit.

Latest wills

Lady Dugan of Victoria, of Knightsbridge, London widow of Major-General Lord Dugan of Victoria, former Governor of South Australia and Victoria, left estate valued at £796,796 net.

Marianne Millard Kennard, of Leatherhead, Surrey, left estate valued at £312,601 net.

She left a personal bequest of £1,000 and the residue equally between the NSPCC, Cancer Research Campaign and the RSPCA.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Kenneth Weir Hogg, Bt, of Mayfair, London, left estate valued at £1,207,534 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Lloyd, Mr Sampson Llewellyn, of Ringscote, Gloucester £546,854
MacCabe, Mrs Eileen Elizabeth Noel, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire £683,810

Magdalen College School

Awards have recently been made as follows:
Academic scholarships: A R Jacobs, Dragon School, Oxford; M Jones, MCS, formerly Headington Middle School, Oxford; A A Laird, Dragon School, Oxford; M T N Williamson, New College School, Oxford.
Music scholarships: M E Denton, New College School, Oxford; G D Redman, New College School, Oxford; D J West, MCS, formerly St Peter's CE Primary School, Broadstairs; M J Winson, MCS, formerly Berley Hill Co Primary School, Thame.
College choristerships: M Allen, Harlyn School, Pinner; J Bancroft, Crabtree Lane Junior School, Harpenden; T D Cobb, Grimsdyke Middle School, Hatch End, Pinner; A C F Eddy, Appleton CE Primary School, Oxford; J Harper, St Barnabas First School, Oxford; S P Page, Leeds Grammar Junior School; B J Stagge, Brockhurst School, Newbury.

Oakham School

Summer Term will begin on Sunday, April 21 1985. The Half Term exeat is from Saturday, May 25 to Wednesday, May 29. There will be 947 pupils in the school: 518 boys and 429 girls. The headboy is Miles Linney and the headgirl is Vanessa Bailey. Speech Day will be on Saturday, July 13, the last day of term, and the guest of honour will be Mr John Garnett, Director of the Industrial Society.

The acting headmaster and trustees of the school announce that the quatercentenary appeal closed on March 31 1985. They are pleased to report that the final total is in excess of the target figure of £500,000. This total includes a very substantial gift from the Jerwood Foundation established by the school's Visitor, Mr John Jerwood, a former pupil of Oakham. The appeal committee is most grateful to him and to all who subscribed to the appeal.

Mr Graham Smallbone will take up his position as headmaster in September 1985. The acting headmaster is Mr Michael Stevens.

Woodbridge School

Summer Term began on Wednesday. Stuart Leask and Jennifer Moore continue as head and deputy head of school respectively. The annual Speech and Open Day is on May 25 when Sir Edward du Cann, MP (OW) will be the guest of honour. The term ends on July 4.

Vintners' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Vintners' Company
Master: Mr A. L. Davies; Upper Warden: Mr Martin Platt; Renter Warden: Mr M. H. Fairbank; Swan Warden: Mr C. I. A. Matheson.

Sale room

£118,800 for 'perfect' pistols

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A pair of nineteenth-century percussion pistols and their richly ornamented accessories sold at Christie's yesterday for £118,800 (unpublished estimate £75,000).

The price is a tribute to the extraordinary workmanship lavished on the pistols and their carved boxwood case.

They were designed to show off their makers' skill at a series of international exhibitions, and were sold with the bronze medal won at the 1851 Great Exhibition in London, another bronze won at the International Exhibition of 1862 and the silver won at the Paris *Exposition Universelle* of 1867. The set was hailed as achieving "a perfection in workmanship rarely reached".

It was made by the firm of Houllier Blanchard, two French gunmaking families joined by marriage. The pistols have remained in the family until they were sent for sale at Christie's.

There was competitive bidding throughout the sale of antique arms and armour with a total of £299,246 and only 4 per cent unsold. A Brunswick belt pistol of about 1580 made £18,360 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000).

Howard Ricketts, the London dealer, spent £10,800 (estimate £10,000 to £12,000) on an embossed Italian morion or helmet made in Mantua about 1535-40, and £8,640 (estimate £8,000 to £10,000) on a medieval sword bearing an Arabic inscription.

There was surprise at Andrew Grant in Worcester when a view of Amsterdam by Gerrit Berckheyde sold for £51,700 against an estimate of £15,000 to £25,000. The distinguished seventeenth-century master of town views is rarely represented in country sales. The painting was bought by a dealer who asked to remain anonymous.

Bonham's, in contrast, is developing a speciality in selling picture frames without any pictures in them. Yesterday it scored its highest price yet at £7,700 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000). That was paid for a finely carved gilt frame in Louis XV style by a dealer from New York.

Koopman's, the London silver dealer, was active on two continents on Wednesday. At Christie's in New York it paid $66,000 (estimate $20,000 to $30,000), or £50,769, for a elaborate rococo epergne of 1764 by Thomas Pitts, of London, while at Christie's in Amsterdam it bought the earliest recorded Dutch silver chamber pot made in the Hague in 1687 – at 68,400 guilders (estimate 20,000 to 30,000 guilders, or £15,775.

The New York sale made £1.2 million, with 14 per cent unsold, while the Amsterdam auction made £283,501, with 5 per cent unsold.

Science report

New hope on whooping cough vaccine

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The development of a new whooping cough vaccine by British scientists is the latest initiative in the long and often disheartening struggle internationally against the disease.

The current work at the Centre for Applied Microbiology and Research at Porton Down, Wiltshire, is based on purified antigens extracted from the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*, and the vaccine is said to be markedly less toxic than the existing whole-cell version.

Clinical trials are planned for next year and if they produce satisfactory results, the new vaccine may replace the controversial one in use at present.

Although the latter "actually has a very good track record", according to a leading researcher at the centre, only half of the children in Britain have been vaccinated with it. Many parents simply believe its side effects are too dangerous, despite reassurances from the Department of Health.

The vaccine has been associated with brain damage in infants in Britain and the United States, and with serious side effects elsewhere, including Japan and Sweden. In the US, of the millions inoculated each year, between five and 20 children have died as a result.

The search for a safer vaccine has been hindered by a lack of understanding of how the disease develops, and which components of the bacteria are toxic and which promote immunity. The bacterium only causes whooping cough in humans, and the organism is difficult to grow in the laboratory.

However, there has been progress in analysing the active components, and American and British scientists believe they have pinpointed those most important in inducing an immune response.

An extract vaccine has been in use in Japan for four years. Four million Japanese children have been inoculated and it is being tested in several other countries.

The new British vaccine is said to be an improved version of its Japanese counterpart. Deaths from whooping cough in Britain are comparatively rare: there were 14 in the last epidemic, in 1982, and a total of only six since then, but there were almost 66,000 sick infants in that epidemic.

According to the World Health Organization, the disease kills up to 450,000 children each year worldwide. Whether at home or abroad, the development of an extremely effective vaccine remains an urgent quest.

Most Children are missing the Point



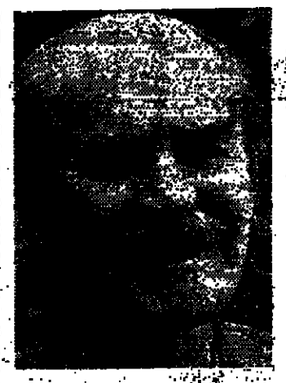
This week the Times Educational Supplement publishes an exclusive preview of the discovery by the Government's Assessment of Performance Unit that a majority of 15 year olds have not grasped the crucially important concept of place value and therefore cannot do sums involving decimals, multiplication, division etc. and why ordinary tests often fail to reveal this.

THE TIMES
Educational Supplement
On sale at your newsagent every week. 55p

OBITUARY

BASIL BUNTING

Poet of unique strengths



Basil Bunting, the poet, died in Hexham, Northumberland on April 17. He was 85.

When Ezra Pound's seminal *Guide to Kulchur* appeared in 1938 it bore a joint dedication to Basil Bunting and Louis Zukofsky, "strugglers in the desert". The desert in which Bunting had struggled up to that date, and in which he was to continue struggling until the mid-sixties, was essentially that of being himself *terra incongnita*.

As might be supposed from the dedication, and from other hints and tips in Pound's published letters, Bunting was a Poundian, a young disciple, one of those who learned technique from the master in Rapallo in the 1930s, but exactly what he was capable of in his own right did not become apparent until much later.

There was a tendency in those early days, if Bunting's name was mentioned, to regard him as perhaps a minor aberration of Pound's.

It was only in the 1960s that his true worth gained him a rather more general recognition.

Basil Bunting had been born in Scotswood on Tyne, England, in 1900, and educated at a Quaker public school, and the London School of Economics. During the First World War, he was jailed as a conscientious objector. He lived abroad for considerable periods – in Paris in the 1920s, in Italy until 1933, and then in the United States for some while. In each of there periods he had definite cultural interests, which viewed in retrospect, can ben seen as stages in his self-education as a poet.

In Paris in the 1920, he was assistant editor of the *Transatlantic Review*; after this, he was music critic of *The Outlook*, London; and then Persian correspondent after the Second World War for *The Times*. His journalistic experience was varied and professional – later on, he spent twelve years as a sub-editor of the *Newcastle Evening Chronicle*.

In all these places, and at all these stages in his career, Bunting was writing verse. The earliest specimens of it appeared in *Redliniculum Matef-larum*, published in a limited edition in Milan in 1930, and now one of the rare sought-after books of the modern movement.

After that, so far as publishing went, there was a twenty year silence until *Poems (1950)* appeared from the quaintly named Cleaners Press, at Galveston, Texas. Neither of these volumes attracted any attention in England.

It was the publication of *Loquitur* (1965), *The First Book of Odes* (1965), and *Briggflatts* (1965), all from the Fulcrum Press in London, which really put Bunting on the map. Here, the critics realised, was an interesting and accomplished practitioner who had learned his trade slowly and for himself, who wrote a literate and sometimes erudite poetry, referring sometimes for its resonance to Persian originals and always infused with a keen awareness of musical forms – a whole group of his poems called "Sonatas" bearing a much more rigorous relationship to that shape than is usually the case with words; yet a poet who in all his wayward sojourning, and his further journeys of the mind and spirit, had remained essentially at home in the Northumbrian landscape of his youth.

Collected Poems (Fulcrum Press, 1966) merely confirmed what the volumes of 1965 had suggested: that Basil Bunting was a poet uncompromisingly married to the modern movement as that movement had first defined itself in the poems of Pound and Eliot in the 1920s, but who had brought the sometimes facile eclecticism of his masters under dour North Country control, and discovered in his native place a local habitation and a name for what is often in Pound and Eliot a spiritual expression of a sense of exile.

Bunting, it was seen, was a rooted poet and a strangely English one. Even when he adopted a persona, as in "Villon", it was in order to explore certain possibilities of his own experience. The sympathy felt with the French poet as one outlawed and imprisoned is the sharper and more tender for the Englishman's remembering his time in jail as a conscientious objector. But the scrupulous mastery of form allows for no intrusive self-pity.

He went on publishing volumes of verse – *What the Chairman Told Tom* (1967) and *Descant on Rawley's Madrigal* (1968) may be mentioned, although his taste for out-of-the-way American publishers made of these books difficult to lay hold of in England. He was also a fairly regular contributor to the poetry magazine *Agenda*, in London.

None of his later work surpassed *Briggflatts* in its appeal to a younger generation of readers, however. This autobiographical testament, hailed by Cyril Connolly as "the finest long poem to have been published in England since *Four Quartets*", elegiacally celebrates the poet's own life in lines stripped to a lyric intensity that achieves maximum effectiveness where a certain Northumbrian roughness or looseness of speech-texture is allowed to poke through, as the writer expresses and rejects what he has learned about his nature over the years. Absolutely modern, it is also local: that is its rarity.

Bunting was an Hon DLitt of the University of Newcastle of which he was also made an Hon Life Visiting Professor. He was President of the Poetry Society, 1972-76, and of Northern Arts, 1973-76.

He was twice married.

EVADNE PRICE

Evadne Price, author and actress, died at Manly, Australia on April 17.

Of English parentage, she was born at sea in 1896, and educated at private and convent schools in New South Wales, Belgium and England. Her home broke up on the death of her father, and she went to London to pursue a theatrical career.

Without specialized training she quickly found her way into repertory groups touring the provinces. At the age of 15 she became understudy to Miss Dorothy Dix in a West End production of *The Bird of Paradise*, and took over a leading role when the star became ill.

Her first leading part in her own right came shortly afterwards in *The Rose and the Ring* at the Wyndham's theatre, but ill-health forced her off the stage, and she took up writing instead of acting.

Before she was 17 she had become a columnist on the London *Sunday Chronical*, and later, on the *Sunday Graphic*. During the First World War, she worked for the Air Ministry.

In the late 1920s she began to write a string of hilarious and popular novels for children (the Jane Turpin books); adult romances both for magazines serialization and hardback publication; and several successful theatre and screenplays.

She married C. A. Fletcher and, after his death, the Australian writer and journalist Kenneth A. Attiwill, in 1929. At this time Attiwill was a sub-editor and Evadne a feature-writer on the *Daily Sketch*.

A publisher had suggested that Evadne should write a parady of Erich Maria Remarque's *All Quiet on the Western Front*, but after reading the novel Evadne felt that any attempt to parody it would be tasteless and offensive. Instead she decided to write a serious novel about women's active involvement in the First World War. Such books were rarer then than they are now and in 1930 her *Not So Quiet...* was published under the pseudonym of Helen Zenna Smith, as an apparently first-hand account of a girl ambulance-driver's experiences.

Both in Europe and America it was accepted as fact rather than fiction by hundreds of thousands of readers.

Not So Quiet... was followed by other novels dealing with the effect on women, not only of the war, but of its aftermath: *Women of the Aftermath* (1931); *Luxury Ladies* (1933); *They Lived with Me* (1934).

In France, *Not So Quiet...* was awarded the Prix Severigne, as the "novel most calculated to promote international peace"; Paramount bought the film rights, and the book was serialized in America in *Collier's Weekly*, and in England in *The People*, for which newspaper Evadne Price became a war correspondent between 1943 and 1945.

She was believed to be the first woman reporter to go into the Belsen concentration camp after its liberation. Towards the end of the war she climbed up to Hitler's eyrie at Berchtesgaden and scrawled her own name in lipstick across the Fuehrer's enormous mirror. She interviewed Goering after his capture, and covered the Nuremberg Trials.

After the war, she and Attiwill collaborated on several plays, Evadne continued to write romantic novels, and in the field of astrological prediction, she achieved widespread success, becoming the regular astrological correspondent of *She* magazine. Latterly she and Attiwill lived in Australia.

Of Evadne Price's plays, those best remembered are *Ebb Ben* (produced at the 1939 Malvern Festival); *The Phoenix tom Light* (produced in London in 1928 and 1937, and also filmed by Gainsborough pictures); and *Once a Crook*, which was written with Kenneth Attiwill, produced on the London stage in the 1940s and then made into successful film, and radio and television features.

COL SIR RODERICK BRINCKMAN

Colonel Sir Roderick Brinckman, fifth baronet, DSO MC, died on April 16 in Canterbury at the age of 82.

Roderick Napoleon Brinckman, the second son of Colonel Sir Theodore Brinckman, third baronet, CB, he was born on December 27, 1902 and educated at the Royal Naval Colleges Osborne and Dartmouth. He served two years in the Royal Navy and then in 1922 joined the Grenadier Guards.

In the Second World War he served with distinction in France winning the DSO in 1940. A year later he was awarded the MC. He was also mentioned in despatches.

In 1943 he was given the command of the 2nd (Armoured) Battalion of his regiment and a year later was Chief of Staff to the Military Mission in Moscow. In 1945-46 he was head of the British Military Mission to the Netherlands Government in London.

He succeeded his brother in 1954. He was twice married. His elder son, Mr Theodore George Roderick Brinckman succeeds to the baronetcy.

Sir Hugo Sebright, 14th baronet, died on April 16 in France at the age of 54. The son of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Giles Edward Sebright, 13th baronet, CBE, he was born on March 2, 1931 and succeeded his father in 1954. He was twice married and is succeeded by his son Peter Giles Vivian Sebright.

Dartmouth passing out parade

The Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Williamson, representing the Queen, the Lord High Admiral, took the salute at Lord High Admiral's Divisions last Thursday when the following officers under training passed out from the Britannia Royal Naval College:

Prizewinners.
Full-career midshipmen: Herbert Lott Award for best combined professional and academic results; Midshipman D A Jacques. Kings Scholl, Worcester: subject prizes, science and mathematics: Midshipman D A Jacques, engineering science: Midshipman D P Salisbury, Dauntsey's School.
Short career midshipmen: Herbert Lott Award: Sub Lieutenant A D Law, Buxton College.
Supplementary list (air): Herbert Lott Award: Midshipman D J Cook, Nicholas Chamberlain School.
International midshipmen: Award for best combined professional and academic results: Midshipman S S Ranasinghe, Sri Lanka.
Saudi Arabian students: Best Academic results: Midshipman M Al Muhaiza.
WRNS officers: Herbert Lott Award: Third officer L A Moore, Kettering High School. Pauline Doyle Trophy for Parade Training: Third officer M D Pugh, Dudley Girls High School.
Instructor officers: Herbert Lott Award: Lieutenant P J Murphy, Nantwich Grammar.
Direct-graduate entry: Herbert Lott Award: Sub Lieutenant R J Franklin, Sherborne School.
Deferred university cadet entry: Herbert Lott Award: Midshipman I R Leitch, Sir William Wilson's Maths School.
General list
Acting sub-lieutenants: S G Acklam, A J Adams, A D Barth, D P Bolan, S A Borland, S F Broadhurst, J A Cook, D Corser, P A Cox, S R Crozier, M R Darlington, S J Dick, A J Duffield, T S Duncan, T J Forer, R J Fotheringham, G R Gardener, J E Gittos, J P Guilliver, P W Harvey-Hill, D G Hewitson, D A Horton, N M Hosier, E Kriele, S R Lester, G D Mann, J D Massey, N Meredith, J S Mumford, O R Muir, P J Oliver, D F Randall, M G Robertson, R Rowe, C J Roland, T D Sarsfield, R N Shaw, C D Sheridan, M J Smith, D P Stephenson, S J Webber, P G Weston, J J Wilton.
Midshipmen: I K Adam, S M Allen, P J Andrew, M Appleby, J G Arnett, R J Asquith, R C Bail, J E Barlow, R J Blades, A R Borthwick, N S Brown, R J Burniston, N J Chandler, A Chapell, C R Clough, S R Colbeck, A L Colen, A S Corbett, B C Cran, A M Cree, P O Elkins, G J Foster, D R Fryemans, I Glen-Hill, A J Hamilton, A C Harper, M J Harris, G F Hood, R D Hughes, D A Jagners, S J Key, S E Kirby, J Kingwell, R E Kissane, P J Knight, T P Lyons, M J Leeming, J R Leitch, G T Little, A M MacDonald, A J MacTaggart, I R McCall, R J Matthews, A S Mills, R J Morris, J P Murray-Brown, M J Newland, C H Owen, P S Partin, T J Pearce, J Q Philo, N E Philpott, J C Pitt, M D Power, J L Ramshaw, P J Rawlins, M L Rowse, D P Salisbury, A J Shewring, I S Stacy, D M Stone, J Ralphs, C T Temple, D D Tattersall, S P Teel, R G Thackray, N D Thomas, P S Thompson, J M Teare, S E Tvisecate, E A Udenal, S J Wicks, M J Williams.
Supplementary list
Acting sub-lieutenants: J R Baldwin, A G Bacon, S A Bryan, J C Davies, S M Elliman, M A Ferguson, A D Law, P H Moore, D T Orr, A M Richman, M A Slater, A V Toms, N J Walker, R G Williams, S G Wilson, R J Winch.
Midshipmen: J J Anderson, S M Backhouse, S Bankier, A J Buchan, N S Cosin, J W Davenport, M S Evans, J L Forbes, C D Ford, S E Garner, M M Hailstone, P C Ireland, S J Keeney, R J Lang, J Law, M Lister, G H McIntosh, N A Mathieson, A J O'Donnell, N G Rhind, J S Tarbuck, C Trutchan, S W Williams, B D Wright.
Supplementary list (air)
Acting sub-lieutenants: R E Barkerton, R J Elliott, T Q Giles, P A Heffernan, G G Matthews, S Savage, A C Van Haven, G F White.
Midshipmen: D C Barker, J C Bazley, K E Blount, B A Bayley, D J Cook, I H Crean, J R Dibbs, D A Evans, J J Fraser, A J Gay, J P Grace, C J Hickson, M A Kent, A D Lord, D W Longshaw, D J Nicholson, M R Roberts, M C Rowley, G T Saunders, P B Simmonds, C Short, P E Smith, N J Spooner, R M Stevens, A Vincent, N J Whitfield, A V Wright.
Instructor Officers: Lieutenants: D A Bright, R R Burwell, I W Cairns, S L Davison, P T Edwards, D N Lacey, P J Naylor, T E Reynolds, C J Rudman, T J Skidelsky, T Sweeney, A G Teague, G O Trowbridge, M A Woodhe.
Acting sub-lieutenants: S G Burwell, A M Pearson, M R Smith, J N Stewart.
Women's Royal Naval Service:
Probationary third officers: E A Alford, R Allen, R J Firth, P J Hopwood, C M Pilkard, N E Jenkins, E J Kerr, L A Moore, S J Parker, M D Pugh.
International midshipmen: S A Al Amri, United Arab Emirates; S F Al Asiri, Oman; S Al Sabbi, I Al Nemeri, F A Al Jaran, M N Al Muhaina, A Al Qarni, M Al Rofei, A Al Yousefi, A Al Zamrani, all Saudi Arabia; H Y Beh, A Cheng, C F Grace, R M Saunders, all Bahamas; E W Hone, Philippines; both Singapore; R S Ranasinghe, Sri Lanka.

Luncheons

Canada-United Kingdom Chamber of Commerce
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Alderman and Sheriff Greville Spratt, was the guest of honour and principal speaker at a luncheon given by the Canada-United Kingdom Chamber of Commerce yesterday at Stationers' Hall. The Deputy High Commissioner was present and Mr R. H. A. Wade, president of the chamber, was in the chair.

Plumbers' Company
A court of assistants of the Plumbers' Company's luncheon was held at Ironmongers' Hall yesterday. The Master, Mr Peter Sicer, presided assisted by the Wardens, Mr Martin Caroe and Mr Geoffrey Marsh. The guests included the Masters of the Armourers' and Brasiers', and Chartered Secretaries' companies, and the student gold award winner, Mr R. Cowley.

Marriages

Mr D. Grose
and Mrs O. Case Brown
Mr David Grose and Mrs Olive Case Brown were married in London on April 6.

Mr J. G. Milligan, QC,
and Mrs E. C. R. Ashworth
The marriage took place in Canterbury on Saturday, April 6, 1985, of Mr Jim Milligan, QC, and Mrs Cynthia Ashworth.

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Hope flows back into the East End





Geoffrey Pattie, Information Technology Minister, views the model of the Heron Quays development on Monday. Right: The STOL port site in the Royal Docks awaits a decision

The face of London's Docklands, the eight square miles of what is surely the most exciting and controversial development site in Europe, has changed rapidly in the last four years. Today, the grim, depression-laden countenance of the past is giving way to an expression of hope and renewal.

Depending on which side of the great political and economic divide you stand, the redevelopment of the capital's docks is either a result of an innovative and entrepreneurial process – a guiding light towards urban regeneration – or an expensive monument to capitalist greed, an island of business investment which will remain surrounded by a sea of unemployment and decay.

The London Docklands Development Corporation, established by a Conservative Government in 1981 to be the catalyst for change, has – rightly or wrongly – surged ahead with flair and dynamism, refusing to be submerged under stifling bureaucracy and local politics.

The docks redevelopment between July 1981 and March 1984 cost in LDDC spending £143.8 million of which £50 million was in buying land and £80 million on project investment, promotion and estate management. This has generated £243.3 million of private investment on corporation land, split between housing, commercial and industrial schemes, plus a further £240 million on developments on other sites.

The whole grandiose scheme is now at a crossroads: after achieving so much so rapidly, the real test of the will of the Government and the private sector investors to continue to back it is yet to come. The next two years will be crucial.

So far, the corporation, which has control of 5,100 acres of Docklands, including 450 acres of open water, has regenerated about one eighth of the derelict land available and having got itself firmly established is now aiming for a big increase in spending.

Further massive investment by private companies will be needed in the next few years on highly ambitious and, some say, risky, projects including transport if this is to become the show-piece of urban renewal that the Government hopes for.

The Docklands site, which is really a wide range of differing communities in which the docks, wharves and warehouses themselves constitute only a small part, stretches eastward eight miles from Tower Bridge and includes an area south of the River Thames. It is only minutes from the heart of the capital and, if all goes well, will in the next three years have one of the most highly sophisticated urban rail transport systems in Europe.

The history of the rise and fall of the London docks has been well documented, largely because it is a story of romance and squalor, of characters ranging from men of vision, adventurers and world traders to Dickens's "human scum", of tales of the sea and far-off lands, of spices and spirits, of tortoise shell and timber.

Here the ghosts of Shackleton, who set off for the South Pole from St Katharine's Dock near the Tower, and Judge Jeffreys who was arrested in the Docklands, mingle with those of the convict ship inmates and the hanged pirates and, more lately, the tens of thousands of dockers who constituted such an integral part of East End life.

The heyday of the docks was short. While London merchants were complaining of the supremacy of Bristol at the start of the 18th century it was not until 1805 that the West India company opened its dock in the Isle of Dogs. Within a century the fortunes of the docks was already fading and by the 1960s had become irreversible. Containerisation, intense competition from other ports, high labour costs and appalling relations between the dockers and the employers sounded the death knell.

Within 14 years the area that had become the heart of the British empire's trading system was turned into a desert: the Royal Docks were the last to go and closed in 1981.

Housing plan failed to stop the drift away

In the decade up to 1976, more than 150,000 jobs disappeared in the docklands and job losses were occurring three times faster than those being created. Half the population left for better prospects elsewhere and, inevitably, decline set in with a vengeance.

The intense argument about what to do began in the early 1970s and culminated with the London Docklands Strategic Plan in 1976 in which the Greater London Council and the five docks boroughs (Southwark, Lewisham, Greenwich, Tower Hamlets and Newham) drew up a scheme to turn Docklands into a working class Shangri-la. The whole of the East End could be housed by filling in the docks and building council homes so that multi-storey dwellers could at last be provided with houses with gardens.

But it did not work. The people still left, unemployment continued to rise and new industry was not attracted. The move of the Billingsgate fish market to the Isle of Dogs and the establishment of the News International printing plant at Wapping were the only notable exceptions.

The new Conservative Government in 1979 decided that the efforts were insufficient and politically unacceptable. The result was the setting up of the LDDC. Michael Heseltine, then Secretary of State for the Environment, said the docks represented a major opportunity for the development that London needed for the last 20 years of the century – "new housing, new environments, new industrial development, new facilities for recreation, new commercial development, new architecture, all calculated to bring these barren areas back into more valuable use.

"This transformation from decline to renewal, from a problem area to an opportunity one, can only be achieved by a level of expenditure that only the Exchequer can afford. London Docklands can only be successfully regenerated by a single minded development agency."

That one-track view has paid off in terms of attracting industry and commerce to Docklands, the process having been stimulated by the creation of an enterprise zone in the Isle of Dogs. Communications have been transformed with the establishment of British Telecom's first earth satellite and the new Docklands Business Directory lists 180 newcomers since 1981 many of whom are involved in high technology industries.

Now, the LDDC plans to concentrate its efforts on the vast expanse of the Royal Docks, the farthest away from the centre of London and the greatest challenge. It is there that the proposed short take-off and-landing (STOL) airport will be built and which, with the £77 million Docklands railway due in service in 1987, should finally mark the rebirth of the area.

But the single-mindedness has not paid off in defusing the complaints of the detractors and opponents. George Nicholson, chairman of the GLC planning committee, said last year in a document damning the corporation's activities: "Anyone who regards as a success story the systematic attacks by the LDDC on local and strategic planning and on local accountability, the confiscation of practically all the housing land in the docklands . . . the loss of thousands of jobs traditional to the area, the madcap schemes for an airport, luxury housing and huge office developments, cannot be said to have the interests of the residents of Docklands at heart."

'Too little attention to local opinion'

Christopher Benson, managing director of the London property company MEPC who took over from Sir Nigel Broackes in July last year as chairman of the LDDC, believes that too little attention has been given to local views and grievances. Too often, he says, local people have been presented with a fait accompli.

Job creation and housing are politically the most sensitive issues and remain the problems most difficult to overcome. But the LDDC is not a housing authority and it is "a pious hope", says Mr Benson, that the corporation can generate huge numbers of jobs in the present economic climate.

He intends to talk to as many interested parties as possible during what has become the second phase of the Docklands renewal but he warns that "our task is to regenerate the area and there comes a time when we have to stop listening."

He adds: "I will talk to everybody, including the politically motivated, but I will not be an Aunt Sally for wreckers. The success of the Docklands regeneration is now apparent and the fact has to dawn everyone that it is going to happen; the impossible is being achieved."

Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Prime sites on the forgotten riverbanks

London's Docklands, has been spurned for the last 20 years by commercial property developers and investors alike, who, if they even knew of its existence, would certainly not have put any money into it.

One of the key factors leading to the switch from worthless land values to figures of £150,000 an acre was the creation of the London Docklands Development Corporation. Its ability to own and control vast areas of land in Docklands has given developers a chance to deal with a single authoritative body, albeit one that is not quite as free of bureaucratic control as it makes out.

Another factor was the Government's decision to make the Isle of Dogs London's only enterprise zone where rate-free holidays and other fiscal incentives apply. It is in the enterprise zone that most commercial development has *been concentrated, primarily led* by building contracting companies rather than major property companies or institutional investors, which are still noticeable by their absence.

The largest and most spectacular development in Docklands will be the St Martin's Property Corporation's London Bridge City development, stretching from London Bridge to Tower Bridge on the south side of the river. The first phase, with one million sq ft of shopping, a private hospital, a shopping gallery and 281 homes, will cost about £120 million.

The Kuwait-owned company is financing the scheme itself and work is well under way on the buildings nearest London Bridge.

Plans to redevelop this stretch of the river front, formerly the site of warehouses, was conceived long before the LDDC came into being, but Government decree ensured it was included in the boundaries of the corporation.

Apart from the giant St Martin's redevelopment, activity focuses on the enterprise zone in the Isle of Dogs. More than £21 million has been invested in new roads and services by the LDDC, with the private sector sinking £140 million into commercial and

Continued on Page 16, col 6

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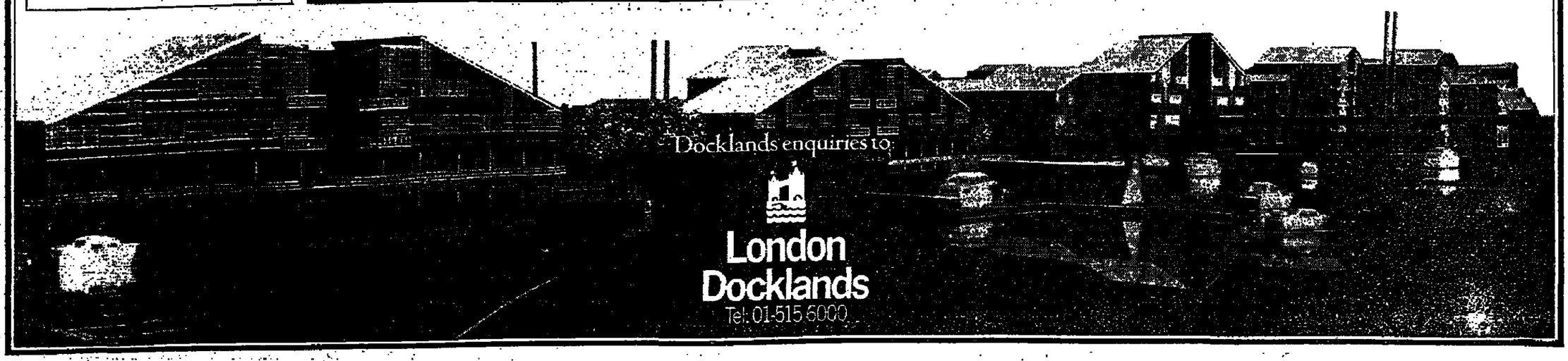
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The short, sharp shock treatment

When the London Docklands Development Corporation was set up by the Government to regenerate this depressed inner city area by attracting new private businesses, the new body gained important powers, notably decisions on planning permission.

One result was that the local authorities concerned lost control over large areas of land. Not surprisingly they did not, and do not, like this. Moreover, all the boroughs concerned, as well as the Greater London Council, are Labour-controlled and envisage very different development strategies from those of the LDDC, whose remit comes from Mrs Thatcher's Government. Political conflict was inevitable.

Objections to the actions of the LDDC, made by the GLC, the local authorities, and local pressure groups, include charges that it is unresponsive to the needs of the area's existing inhabitants and misleads them with unjustified claims, that it is undemocratic and unaccountable, that it it secretive and does not consult with the local community, and that if it does it takes no notice of what people say.

Father Jim Kennedy, a Roman Catholic priest who is chairman of Forum, an umbrella organization for trade unions, employers' groups and many local interests, says: "There is a view by officers within the LDDC that to talk to the community is to delay the process of regeneration.

That the LDDC consists of "people in a hurry" they do not deny. Eddie Oliver, the corporation's deputy chief executive, says: "When we started four years ago . . . some of the area had actually been derelict for a decade. There had been a series of half-baked, half-hearted government initiatives, different master plans and proposals, and there was a tremendous amount of scepticism about whether anything would actually happen."

Mr Oliver said they had promised themselves that "however long we were given, when we packed up and went away, the one thing they wouldn't say was 'They were all talk'.

"I think everybody else saw Docklands as being a huge problem area with very little hope and something that was going to take a quarter of a century to turn around.

"We thought that if we hit it really hard and hot, there was an immense opportunity, and if we could get enough confidence and enthusiasm, we actually could turn it around in a very short period of time.

"But that could *only* be done in a short period of time. Ironically, you can't get excitement generated and sustained over a quarter of a century."

Of the "undemocratic" nature of the LDDC Mr Oliver said: "That's clearly true. The corporation is an extraordinary arrangement for an extraordinary situation, defensible, if at all, as a temporary expedient to achieve something special in a short period of time."

"Most people who work at the corporation regard it as being justified simply because something special has to be done . . . and our whole *raison d'etre* is to get something done which can survive when we are wound up."

The LDDC's critics saw an area of very high unemployment where much of the labour was unskilled, and concluded that the right thing to do was to try to attract to the area industries which would suit this labour market.

"Our view is that that is totally impractical," he said. It's whistling in the wind. Those sorts of industries tend to be in decline anyway. They are certainly moving out of the south-east.

"Our strategy is entirely different. It is to look at what parts of the economy are vibrant, which parts are growing, and try to get them to move into Docklands and then to see what we can do through education and training etc, to help people fit themselves for the new jobs. It's a straightforward difference of view about the way to do it, and we'll never agree about that."

Mr Oliver also stressed that the LDDC was "an implementing agency" and as such worked within the remit of the present Government, which believed in the mixed economy. Nor was the building of council houses for rent part of their remit.

He said: "The conditions of existing council estates in Docklands are pretty poor. No worse arguably than anywhere else, but the fact that decent housing is being built alongside them, which isn't happening elsewhere, brings it to their notice."

At present the corporation is spending about £1 million a year in improving existing council housing but Mr Oliver says: "I think a greater effort will have to be made by all of us.

Relationships between the LDDC and the local authorities mainly concerned vary considerably. Both Tower Hamlets and Newham have working relationships with the corporation, that with Tower Hamlets being the warmer of the two.

Until recently there was limited contact with the left-controlled council in Southwark, which virtually refused to recognize the corporation's existence. But even this council is now beginning to have contact with the LDDC.

There are also tentative signs of a thaw in relations with the pressure groups. One cause could be the succession of Christopher Benson, managing director of MEPC, to the chairmanship of the LDDC. He took over from Sir Nigel Broackes, chairman of Trafalgar House.

Father Kennedy said: "I think he is, quite genuinely concerned at some of the issues we have raised with him. He is what I would call a Victorian gentleman: His first instinct is to make money and then he has a social conscience as to what happens to that money.

"We have fundamental disagreements with him but you can actually work with him to a certain extent.

Godfrey Morrison



All change: New industry for Docklands, and the men who aim to get more. LDDC Chairman Christopher Benson (left) and deputy chief executive Eddie Oliver

The City starts to take interest

Continued from page 15

industrial buildings. Last year saw the development of 1.3 million sq ft with at least another 500,000 sq ft on the way.

Asda, the superstore operator, was an early developer in Docklands, with one store on the Isle of Dogs and another in Beckton on the eastern edges of Docklands. Tesco has just announced plans to build a £25 million shopping centre incorporating an 80,000 sq ft superstore in Surrey Docks on the south side of the river.

Several large newspaper groups have been tempted to move their printing works to the enterprise zone. Guardian Newspapers is the latest to join the move eastwards. It is building a 45,000 sq ft printing works in the Isle of Dogs at a cost of £15 million, the largest single investment it has ever made. The scheme will take up the last phase of Wimpey Property Holdings' enterprise business park.

Phase one, with 43,700 sq ft is largely let. The *Daily Telegraph* is also building a new printing works in the enterprise zone, and News International's new plant at Wapping is ready for occupation.

Limehouse Studios came to life in the enterprise zone, as did smaller commercial schemes such as Indescon Court and the Lanterns.

Such has been the demand in the enterprise zone that most of the available sites have been sold. The last two plots for industrial as well as office development were sold before Christmas to Standard Commercial Property Securities for a £5 million project called Great Eastern Enterprise. In total the development will have 130,000 sq. ft. of space, comprising a mix of offices and industry.

One of the most ambitious schemes in the enterprise zone is Tarmac Brookglade Properties' 300,000 sq ft office, shopping, residential and studio development at Heron Quays.

The first phase if this £50 million project on the 8.5-acre site is now open. Phase one has 18,000 sq ft of high-tech buildings and 16,000 sq ft of business apartments. More than 200 homes are being built.

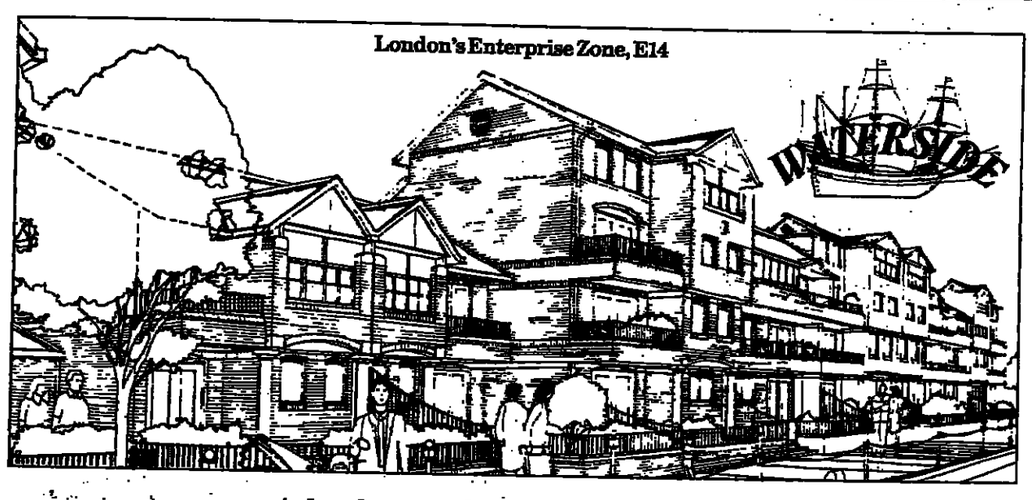
The corporation is hoping to attract private capital into the area which is being mooted as the site of a future Olympic Games. Hotels are also on the cards but there will be a reluctance to operate until supporting development is underway.

The LDDC is believed to be on the verge of setting up its first institutional investment in Docklands. This would be a real coup for the corporation and would give credibility to Docklands as an area for mainstream property investment.

The LDDC's view is that the area is the biggest redevelopment opportunity in Europe. Investors so far have not shared that opinion but next year may see a shift in their stance.

Judith Huntley
Commercial Property Correspondent

London's Enterprise Zone, E14

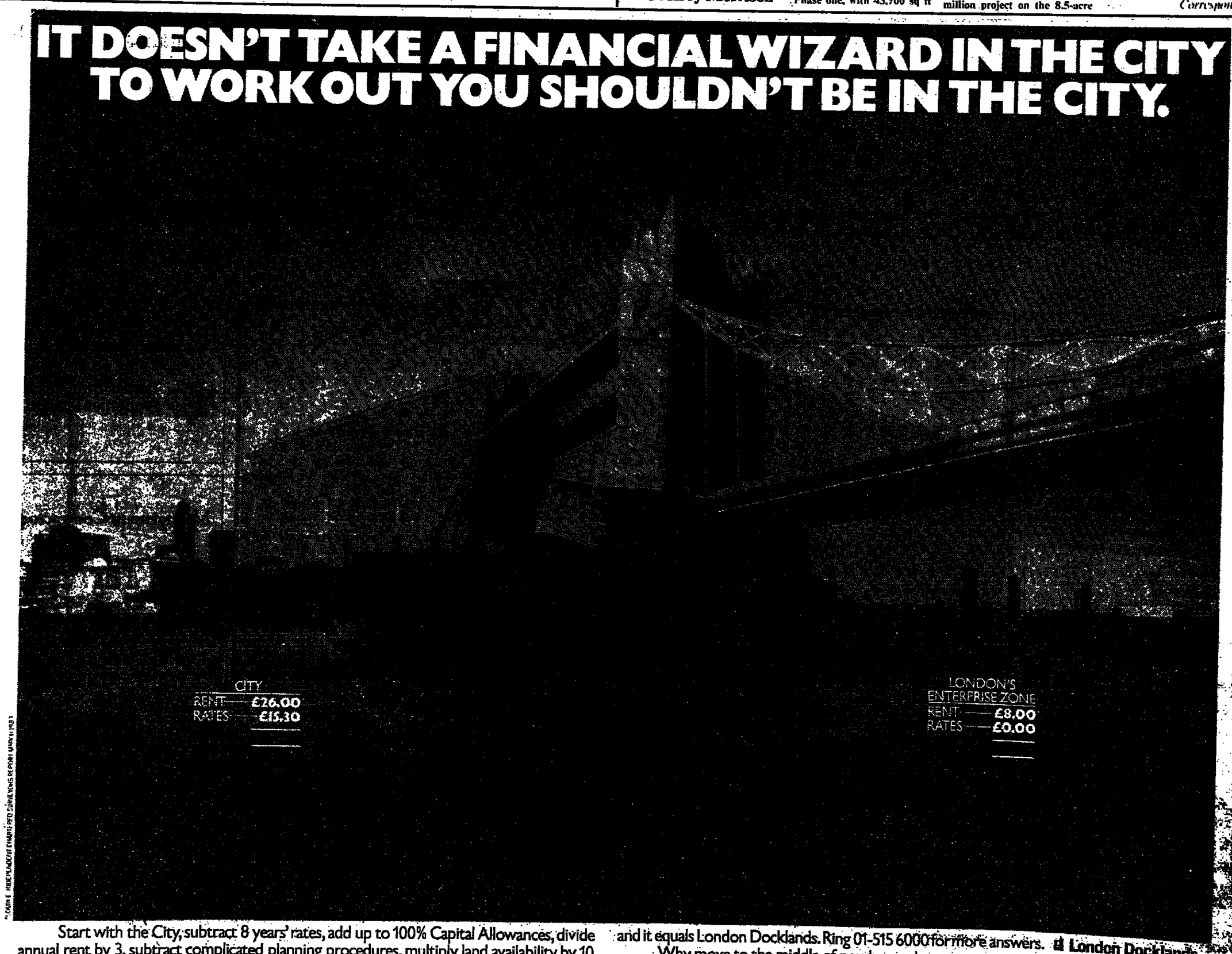


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SPECIAL REPORT LONDON DOCKLANDS/3

Home is just Norman's cup of tea

East Ender Norman Holland never thought he would see the day. But after 26 years he is back working on the Isle of Dogs at the very quayside spot where his grandfather once queued for employment as a casual docker.

"It's a remarkable twist of fate, but wonderful to be back in Docklands", enthused the 50-year-old tea merchant, who now numbers among his clients the royal household of Princess Alexandra, the Old Bailey and the Metropolitan Police.

Just two years after being made redundant as a tea taster with Jardine Matheson, Mr Holland jumped at the opportunity to open his own business in the inexpensive Cannon Workshops at West India Dock.

Like many East Enders he had moved out to Essex when the docks fell into decline. For Mr Holland, and many other like him, the revival of Docklands has satisfied a long-felt desire to "come home".

That home is fiercely defended by its residents. Madeleine Craggs, a former major in the Womens Royal Army Corps, moved from Yorkshire to her new house on the Isle of Dogs to be greeted by a heap of abuse from a neighbour.

But that has done nothing to dim her enthusiasm about Docklands – only a short journey from her new job in the City.

The local loyalty is matched with a shrewd financial judgment that investment in the area will show a good return. The one-time Bermondsey boy entertainer Tommy Steele, has appreciated that his philanthropic investment in the high-tech Trinity Business Centre in Rotherhithe should also show a profit.

The jobs that drained away in the 1960s and 1970s are being put back at the rate of three a week.

According to figures from the London Docklands Development Corporation – some of them bitterly disputed by its critics – 8,500 jobs were lost and 800 gained between 1976 and 1981, losses and gains balanced out during the next three years, and since then there has been a net gain of nearly 2,000 jobs excluding 1,700 in the construction industry alone.

Cannon Workshops, converted from old customs warehouses and completed in June 1983, was one of the first developments to take advantage of the Isle of Dogs Enterprise Zone's rate holiday – a rates exemption until April 1992. It now houses 137 new businesses and, with rents on average £10 per sq ft cheaper than in the City, there is a growing waiting list.

Alongside such traditional enterprises as Mr Holland's, the workshops have attracted many newcomers with high-tech businesses – computer operators, advertising agencies, photographers and printers.

The corporation has worked hard at encouraging new businesses to help one another through the Docklands Business Club, now with a membership of 397. It has also set up the Docklands Business Research Centre which gives help and advice to those starting up.

The mix of traditional and high-tech businesses in the Common Workshops is reflected throughout Docklands with a dozen major mixed developments now being built, ranging from Tarmac Brookglade Properties' £50 million scheme at Heron Quays – providing more than 300,000 sq ft of commercial space, more than 200 homes, pubs and restaurants – to trend-setter Sir Terence Conran's seven-year project at Butler's Wharf.

Larger enterprises are now beginning to move into the area – Associated Dairies, British Telecom and the Mercury satellite stations. The transfer of the Stock Exchange computer centre there is interpreted as a sign of acceptance by the City.

News International's decision to site a £70 million printing plant at Wapping, followed by the *Daily Telegraph*, Associated Newspapers and *The Guardian* elsewhere in Docklands, has brought speculation that the area could become the Fleet Street of the future.

The advantages of the site for the factory side of newspaper production, as the deputy managing director of the *Daily Telegraph*, Hugh Lawson, put it, are enormous: "New roads twice the width of congested Fleet Street will make distribution quicker, with easy access to main-line stations.

The corporation's business development director, Peter Turlik, insists that despite a high-powered advertising campaign ("why be in the middle of nowhere . . .") the corporation has not chased footloose industry. "We want quality lasting jobs", he said.


Norman Holland

No one pretends it is easy. Unemployment in the three boroughs is around 45,000, with one in three out of work in Tower Hamlets alone. But training schemes for the young unemployed are already under way.

Despite the corporation's efforts there are those who fear development will finally defeat businesses which have survived the trauma of the dock closures.

The managing director of one of the oldest surviving businesses on the Isle of Dogs, John Lenanton, on Lenanton & Son timber merchants, voiced these fears: "Much as I love to see life coming back into Docklands, rates and labour costs have started to climb as the area is upgraded. This could eventually force us out."

Christine Toomey

. . . but the bankers prefer pop and squash

The tide has turned in London's Docklands. The flood of people leaving the East End as the docks went into decline has stopped and growing numbers are trickling back to breathe new life into an area left for too long in the hands of film crews in search of "atmosphere", writes Christine Toomey.

Between the wars, the population in just one of the docklands boroughs, Bermondsey, rose to 139,000. But as the docks bore the brunt of the blitz and people were rehoused during the slum clearance programmes that followed, by the 1950s numbers there had fallen to 56,000. Now the entire population within the boundaries of the London Docklands Development Corporation stands at just under 40,000.

Those left were the elderly and, in the main, those who had little prospect of finding a job. But, as one-time local Labour MP, Bob Mellish, now vice-chairman of the corporation, explained, "the yen to come back to be near their parents was always very strong in the minds of the young people who left".

Since the corporation was set up four years ago, about 5,000 people have already moved back to the area and the corporation predicts that a further 25,000 will be moving into Docklands over the next 10 years.

Some 60 per cent of those who have moved into the Surrey Docks area have strong family links there.

This influx comes in the wake of new job opportunities. But recreational and other facilities being created there, will, it is hoped, act not only as a draw to people to live and work in the area, but also to others to visit the Docklands.

The "jewel in the crown" of the Docklands development in the eyes of many will be the London Docklands Arena, a £6.5 million project to turn a former banana shed at Millwall Dock, on the Isle of Dogs, into the largest indoor sports centre in the country.


Nick Stacey with the warehouse that will soon be a sports centre after a £6.5 million investment

Work is already under way transforming the 3 acre shed into an activity area, which could accommodate 60 badminton courts and will house a full 200-metre athletics track, squash courts and supporting facilities of a family fitness centre, medical screening and physiotherapy.

There is also a plan, now being discussed, to raise the roof of the centre to increase the audience capacity of 4,000 to enable international tennis tournaments to be played there.

The building of the centre, brainchild of merchant banker Lord Selsdon, is being funded jointly by the public and private sector. But the newly-appointed director of the Arena, Nick Stacey, is determined that when the centre opens next year it will be self financing.

"We are aiming for the right mix of sports facilities for the community and a venue for national and international sports events together with regular pop concerts to help pay the running costs", he explained.

"Attracting as it will some of the biggest international sporting and performing stars, we believe the Arena will be a great morale booster to the Docklands and a great fillip to East London generally."

Another unique sports facility under development is the dry Ski Centre at Beckton. The corporation has provided the basis of the run by forming a 130 metre slope at the Northern Alp, the local residents' affectionate term for a one-time rubbish tip, and are offering a 30-year lease of the site.

There is also windsurfing, sailing, fishing and other water sports, making use of the much neglected 143 acres of enclosed water. There is horse-riding on the "urban farm" at the mud chute, an open recreation area in the heart of the Docklands, and negotiations are under way to bring the aborted World Chess Championship there.

The spin-off from massive private investment on housing and new business in the Docklands has been to attract the largest supermarkets into the area all vying for prime sites in what they can see will form a major consumer catchment area in the future.

ASDA has invested £12 million on superstores at Beckton and the Isle of Dogs, which draw shoppers from as far east as Hornchurch and as far north as Dalston. Tesco and J. Sainsbury are rival bidders for an 80,000 sq ft superstore south of the Thames at Surrey Docks and the plan is that these three sites should become the focus of District Shopping Centres supplemented by a full range of specialist traders.

Pubs and restaurants are preparing for the sudden influx of customers. One of the oldest pubs on the Isle of Dogs, the George, is being restored to its former glory, like many in the area, by Watneys, who are building a restaurant on top. And there are plans for restaurants to be included in every major mixed development project now under construction.

Ambitious plans for a waterfront development in the heart of the Enterprise Zone, at West India Dock, were recently unveiled by the corporation, which should draw visitors in and make a tourist triangle with Greenwich and the Tower.

The centre is to include a major food hall offering a wide range of speciality fast foods, supplemented by bars, restaurants, cafes, a marina, museum, street vendors, street entertainment and craft stores anchored by a 200-room international class hotel.

"There is still a massive re-education to be done in people's minds about what London's Docklands have to offer", said Mr Mellish, citing a recent meeting with the London Taxi Drivers Association to persuade them to be more ready to accept fares to the Docklands. "Some drivers seem to think there is some sort of Bermuda Triangle operating east of Wapping."

"In time, people will come to see that the Docklands is one of the few parts of London really moving into the 21st century with the sort of facilities that the public are going to expect then as of right."

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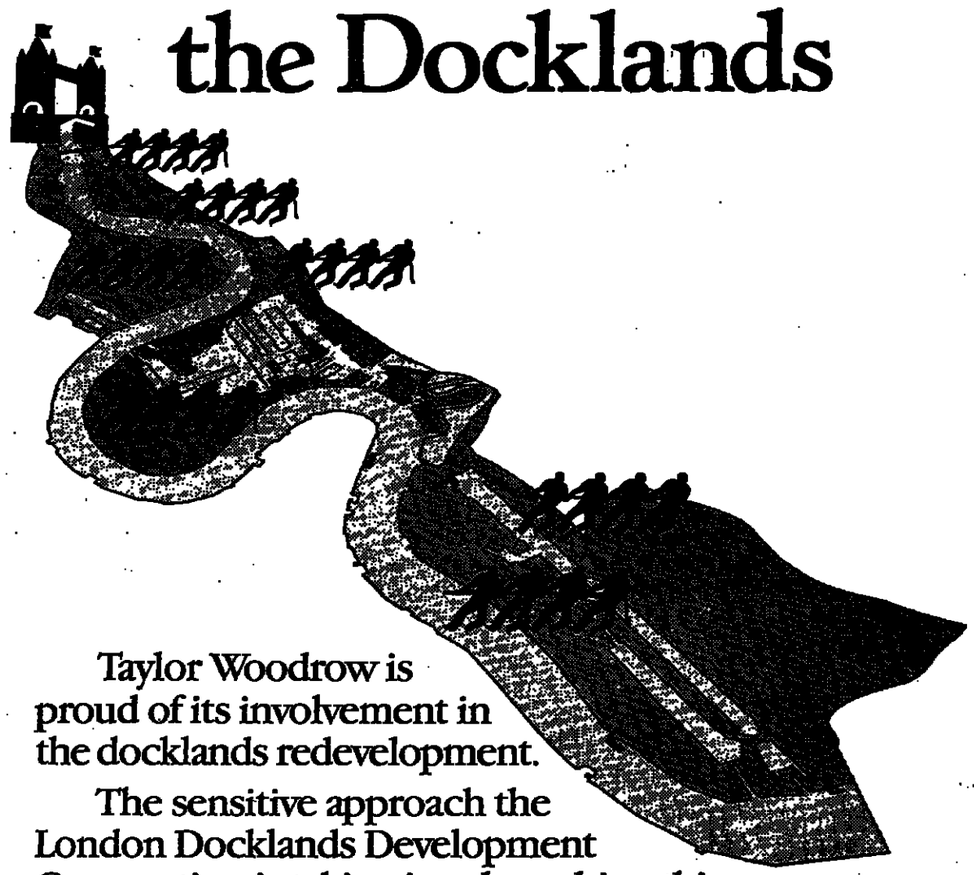
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On the red-brick road to development



Mike Abrahams

Present stylishness, past grandeur: Limehouse television studios in Docklands and Victorian buildings on the Isle of Dogs

"You have to go and see it for yourself," they said. They were quite right. The bustle of purposeful activity within the red-brick roads which mark the boundaries of the 482-acre Enterprise Zone at the Isle of Dogs gives an ambiance which is more easily sensed than described. The visual sight provides a stark contrast to a drab hoplessness which has been a hallmark of the dockland area for so long.

My first stop was the Limehouse television studios, a gleaming smoked-glass-steel building facing the waterside at Canary Wharf. There was a gaggle of beautiful people inside a vast, plant-bedecked and carpeted foyer. Outside, despite the bitter March wind, a water skier was skimming across the surface of a clean-looking stretch of water. The taxi driver, an East Ender, could not believe his eyes. "Blimey," he said, eyeing a Rolls-Royce. "Last time I was here there was a policeman barring the gate and only sailors came here."

The £10 million Limehouse Studio project which began converting a 200,000 square foot warehouse in September 1982 is only the first of more than over 30 new developments which have arrived here since April of that year when part of the Isle of Dogs was designated London's Enterprise Zone. Special incentives offered with the aim of creating new jobs in run down inner-city areas included: exemption from local rates, 100 per cent allowances for capital spending on buildings, simplified planning control and exemption from industrial training levies and development land tax – all for an experimental 10-year period.

The next stop, past a floating restaurant and bar, a television equipment hire company and a company called Broadcast Developments was Heron Quays, where a collection of bright red buildings overhangs the West India Dock.

Chris Collins, an executive director of Tarmac Brookglade, the company responsible for the Heron Quays development – the first part of which reached completion this month, said: "There is no doubt that the Enterprise Zone allowances have given the stimulus to get people down there"

The allowances have also helped attract funds to enable young service companies such as Small Systems Engineering and Advanced Technology to acquire premises. Mr Collins adds. The incentives have within easy reach of the City and the rest of London.

Other buildings yet to be constructed on the 600-yard helped RCO Contracts, a contract leasing and security company, to buy a 5,000 sq ft buildings as a headquarters peninsula which projects into the dock will continue to be offered for sale as well as for rent. "I would like to see as much ownership as possible," says Mr Collins. "It helps to give a sense of belonging."

We travelled past clusters of "Sold" signs on a variety of human-sized factory buildings nestling under the steely high-tech eye of the satellite communication dishes installed by Mercury Communications. The shiny glass facade of the Indescon Court industrial building complex glinted us on our way. We noticed the shoppers' cars which more than half-filled a vast car park belonging to an ASDA hypermarket – mute evidence of the new arrival of residents as well as businesses into the area.

Over on the east side of the zone half a mile away, construction is still in progress of "Skylines", a village of 41 self-contained studio-style offices intended to appeal to architects, designers, publishers and other service and professional companies. Unusually, these offices, the biggest of which is only just over 3,000 sq ft, are being offered for sale only on 199-year leases.

The idea is that some of the outgoings saved through exemption from local rates can be channelled into a pension-linked mortgage or other payments, the provision of offices for sale rather than rent is seen as offering several advantages. Ownership is regarded as encouraging service companies to put down roots in the area. Acquisition of a saleable asset is also seen as a financial anchor to strengthen the base of the company.

Prices are expected to start at the £100 to £105 sq ft mark, which would price the smallest of buildings at about £70,000. Described as "London Docklands's Professional Park" by John Laing, the developers, the estate is intended to look more like a cluster of domestic houses than a conventional office block.

Though the first office will not be completed until June – completion date for the whole estate is next January. Negotiations are in progress, with around 10 prospective purchasers, including an architect, a landscape gardener, a book publisher and a building surveyor. The London Industrial Association, which is responsible for running the development, has bought No 4 to house a permanent site management office.

Controversy continues among developers in the Isle of Dogs as elsewhere on whether the enterprise-zone inducements have stimulated genuine new employment or merely reshuffled existing employers. The conclusion from observing the area however is that the clustering of business and activity is seeding a welcome mixture that is both new and exciting. Though everyone is worried about what will happen after 1992, when the experiment ends, the cut-off date is certainly speeding development at an exhilarating rate.

Patricia Tisdall

The pipedream is in the pipeline

At the beginning of this year an empty site in Minories, a street on the edge of the City running from the Tower to Aldgate, sprouted a large orange sign. Just under the British Rail Fenchurch Street-Southend line, it announced: "Mowlem GEC Rail Group".

The orange signs soon spread to the disused Blackwall railway viaduct at Limehouse, and on the Isle of Dogs, in some locations accompanied by the thump of pile-drivers. The Docklands Light Railway, by many hitherto considered a pipedream, was happening.

Its importance is two-fold. It will bring rapid, frequent transport to an area which, because of the looping of the river and the nature of the enclosed docks, has traditionally been the least accessible in inner London.

And it is a powerful confidence-builder, telling both local people and commercial investors that the Government is committed to the area's rejuvenation and is prepared to put big money into making it work.

The £60 million scheme under construction links the City of London at Minories and Tower Hill to Wapping, Limehouse, Poplar and the Isle of Dogs enterprise zone, with a second line northwards from Poplar to Bow and Stratford. It brings the promise of a 7½-minute frequency with automatically controlled trains calling at stations no more than half a mile apart. It will be open and running by 1987.

Whereas almost everyone, including the GLC, approves of the railway, Stolport – the short take off and landing airport proposed for the quay between Royal Albert and King George V Docks – is extremely controversial.

Another area where a dramatic improvement in transport can be expected is on the river. The GLC has already introduced a commuter service from Greenwich to central London, using a conventional, relatively slow craft, which is proving popular with commuters and some tourists.

Past experiments with hovercraft and hydrofoils provoked objections to wash and noise and needed not just an initial subsidy but a high level of continuing support.

LDDC transport planners believe they now have an answer: a semi-fast air-lubricated catamaran which can travel at 25 knots without perceptibly more disturbance than conventional craft.

Running at 20-minute intervals and taking 12 to 16 minutes, including stops, from Charing Cross to Limehouse Reach, it could prove attractive to a great many commuters.

Improvement to roads is urgently needed

The least promising aspect of Docklands transport is roads.

At the strategic regional level, the South Woodford to Barking Relief Road, now under construction, and the East London River Crossing, yet to go to public inquiry, are calculated to tie the eastern end of the LDDC area into the national motorway network, linking it to the M11, A2 and M25.

But at an intermediate level, the GLC, which gives roads a relatively low priority, is at present not geared to completing either the A13 Docklands Northern Relief Road, bypassing Limehouse and Poplar, or the improvement of the A200 Surrey Docks-Deptford road early enough to meet likely needs.

Whatever one thinks about freight by road, those particular improvements are needed quickly.

Tony Aldous

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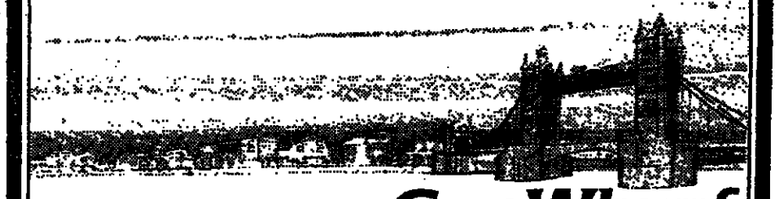
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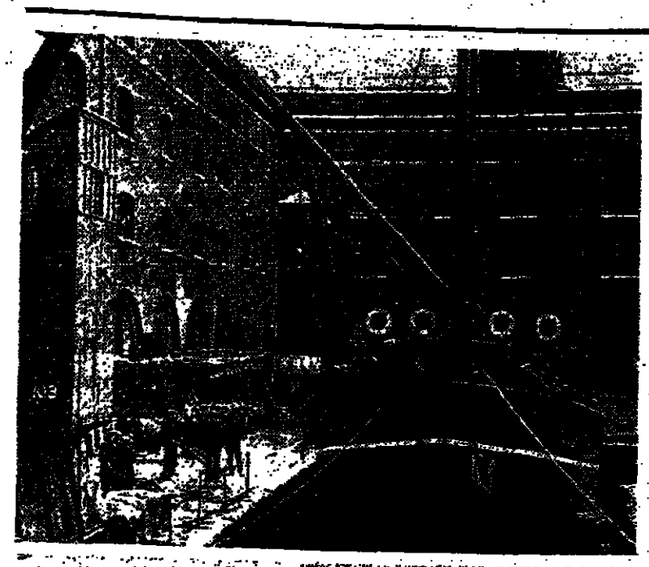
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SPECIAL REPORT

Kings and Queens who share their home with a fish market





Traditional and trendy: St Katharine's Dock in 1928 and today; and (right) the new Billingsgate fish market

The area covered by London's Docklands is not a single entity: many differing communities lie within the arbitrary boundaries of the development corporation and each of the four Docklands subsidiary schemes requires an assortment of solutions for peculiar problems.

Transport needs are of paramount importance in the Royals but not so crucial in Wapping: relocation of existing industry is more pressing in one borough than another; scope for exploiting the large expanses of water is probably greater in the Royals than in the Isle of Dogs.

The Royals

"An innovative and visionary water city" is what Christopher Benson, chairman of the LDDC, hopes the Royals will become when the most ambitious of all the Docklands renewal projects is completed. Public and private investment of about £1,000 million is the plan and the potential for jobs is "limitless", says Mr Benson.

The Royals – the Royal Albert, Royal Victoria and King George V docks – were the last to succumb to the economic pressures that forced the rest of London's docklands into decline and were closed in 1981. They are the biggest, together spanning an area 2½ by ¼ miles in the borough of Newham, with the three-mile-long docks in the middle. They were also the last to be built: The Albert opened in 1880 and George V in 1925 as the first upstream dock for handling goods rather than ship repair.

The huge scheme for the Royals, covering an area equivalent to that between Euston and Waterloo stations in London, is to create a new city and to increase the existing population of 9,7000 by at least 50 per cent.

Initial work has involved LDDC spending on demolition and drainage and thousands of houses have been built on land already released for development. But the key to the success of the Royals will be the proposed short take off and landing airport planned for use by De Havilland Dash 7 aircraft. They are so quiet, claim the LDDC, that people nearby would not notice them unless they saw them, but that has not convinced the protestors of Newham who have successfully delayed the scheme.

Wapping

Wapping's main claim to fame in recent times is that Rupert Murdoch's News International chose the area for its massive new printing plant, the first of the media industries to relocate in the run-down Docklands. Before the arrival of the print industry, St Katharine's, Wapping and Limehouse were being redeveloped as they were closest to the City and therefore the transport infrastructure of the capital.

Wapping also has the advantage of being closer to the Tower than the other Docklands areas and sees far more tourists. Thus it has become a kind of Docklands ambassador.

All these, says the LDDC blurb, plus "occangoing yachts, public and private housing, warehouses converted to gracious apartments, a maritime museum afloat and shops, pubs and restaurants to co-exist in an area that was until a few years ago a forgotten remnant of London's trading past."

Hugging a bend of the Thames, Wapping and Limehouse stretch for about two miles but are no more than half a mile in depth. In conjuction with the borough of Tower Hamlets, the LDDC has improved the area's road system and much land have been made available for public and private housing. One of the major developments has been at Western Dock where 1,000 houses will be built.

On the community-aid front, the LDDC is financing a water users' centre.

Isle of Dogs

This is the area where docklands has really taken off, where Sir Nigel Broackes, the first chairman of the LDDC persuaded and cajoled so many industrialists that investment in the backyard of London would pay off. Failure is not a word that you hear in the Isle of Dogs.

In a rum warehouse is located Limehouse Studios, the largest independent television programme-making outfit, nearby is the relocated Billingsgate fish market, Cannon Workshops, lots of small and medium-size workshops and industrial units all fully occupied, the British Telecom and Mercury Communication Links and an Asda supermarket. Already 150 firms are established in the area.

The key has been the enterprise zone with its 10-year financial privileges for incoming business. By the end of March, 1984 the LDDC had invested more than £21 million in the infrastructure on the Isle of Dogs and the private sector £140 million. Among the newcomers is the *Daily Telegraph* printing works on a 14-acre site.



The most ambitious scheme is at Heron Quays on West India Dock where a £50 million mixed development of 600,000 sq ft of offices, business apartments, shops, flats and studios is being created by Tarmac Brookglade.

Here also is the now-famous Red Brick Road: three miles of thoroughfare made from three million bricks, which snakes its way through the Isle of Dogs and is a symbol of the LDDC's commitment to style and quality. Beneath it lie the fibre optic telecommunications links.

Surrey Docks

This is the part of Docklands that lies south of the Thames in the borough of Southwark, where the local authority began to fill in the docks to increase the amount of land available for council houses. That process was ended by the LDDC with its belief that the water provides the Docklands with a unique quality.

Surrey Docks has three communities – the downtown area to the east where the remaining Greenland and South Docks have been earmarked for leisure use, historic Rotherhithe where the Mayflower set sail for the New World, and Bermondsey to the West, hard by Tower Bridge and the traditional home of London's leather workers.

Here is where Sir Terence Conran and the Butlers Wharf Company are spending £50 million on the former Courage Brewery site building eight acres of offices, apartments, shops, a hotel, workships and other amenities.

About 900 homes are being built in Surrey Docks and a big shopping centre is to be established by either Tesco or Sainsbury. Another 300 homes will be available in the 24-acres London Bridge City West of Tower Bridge.

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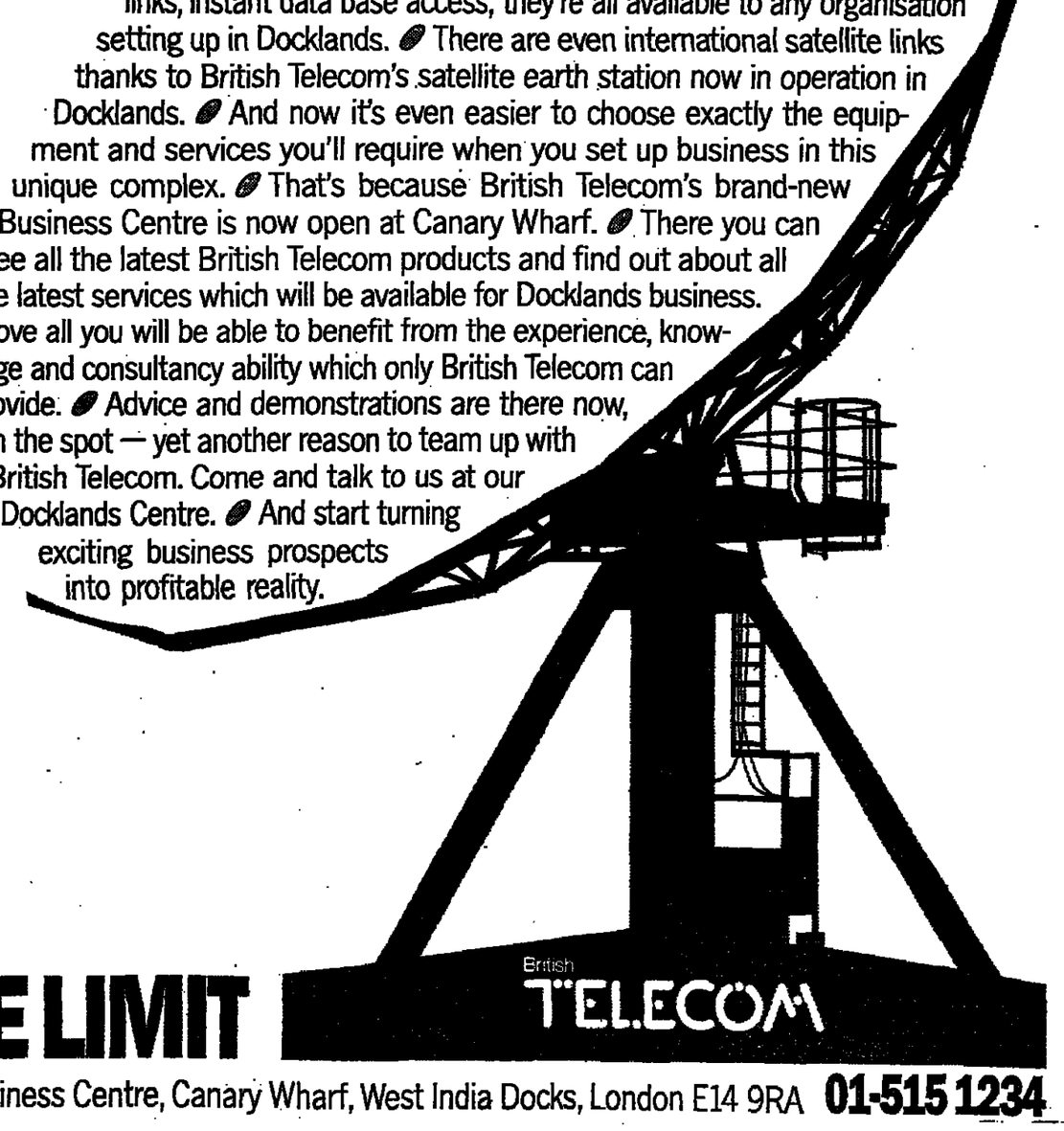
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LONDON DOCKLANDS/6 **SPECIAL REPORT**

A taste of Victorian life

The most important conservation decision was to keep the water. Now it seems obvious that the great dock basins of Millwall, West India, and the Royals are an environmental and recreational asset to be conserved and exploited. But not everyone always took that for granted. Some dock basins – in the London Docks at Wapping and the Surreys at Rotherhithe – were filled in, and in some cases badly.

The decision to keep as much water as possible now appears as part of the same conservationist or good housekeeping approach as keeping and recycling buildings. It is a sensible use of resources; in many cases it is cheaper than demolition and rebuilding; but above all it gives the new development a quality, a sense of continuity.

Docklands' churches are often important both as architecture and as key elements in the townscape. The London Docklands Development Corporation has pursued an enlightened policy here, and churches restored or to be restored with LDDC help range from Hawksmoor's magnificent St Anne's Limehouse and the pretty little St Paul's Shadwell of 1817, to Teulon's gaunt and imposing St Mark's Silvertown, even in its present vandalized state a crucial visual and psychological anchor for the whole area. St Mark's is to become a museum of Victorian life under the aegis of the Passmore Edwards Museum.

Re-use of old buildings starts at the westernmost point of the LDDC area with some ingredients of the giant Hay's Wharf redevelopment. The buildings around Hay's Dock, listed grade II, are being retained with the dock floored over and Crystal Palace-style glass barrel vault creating a *galleria*. The fine stone-faced Hays Dock Company offices of 1931 by Goodhart Rendel are being retained in toto and refurbished as speculative office space.

Futher east on that side of the river, work is proceeding at Butler's Wharf, just downstream of Tower Bridge, where Conran Roche are the architects, planners and developers of a 7½ acre riverside site including 17 listed buildings – notably a wall of tall, late-19th century riverside warehouses. This £65 million, five-year scheme, 90 per cent of it by refurbishment, is being carried out on behalf of Butlers Wharf Limited, a company controlled by Terence Conran, Jacob Rothschild and Alaistair McAlpine. Work started in February on phase one, conversion of a warehouse overlooking St Saviour's Dock into 66 flats.

On the other side of this dock is New Concordia Wharf, one of the pioneers of successful warehouse adaptation.

Further east at Rotherhithe, successful conversion of riverside warehouses into craft workshops at Hope Sufferance Wharf and 99 Rotherhithe Street (where there is also community use) has been followed by the conversion by architects Hunt Thompson of the 19th-century Thames Tunnel Mills into 71 flats by London & Quadrant Housing Association.

On the south bank of the river, the LDDC is restoring the 1890s Dock Manager's Office at Surrey Docks. With its tall clock tower, it will provide an attractive symbol of continuity amid new development.

On the north bank, conversion of waterside warehouses into housing for sale proceeds apace. The lead set by such pioneers as Tony Goddard at Oliver's Wharf and Mrs Ray Hoffenburg at Narrow Street is being followed by bigger developers.

At Wapping Wall, Capital & Counties as owners of Metropolitan Wharf took back control of the building after a fire but has continued to let it as studio workspace units. Tobacco Dock Developments intends to convert the so-called Skin Floor, a grade I listed warehouse dating from 1814, into a Covent Garden-style speciality market.

But probably the most exciting conversion planned for the north bank of the river is the use of another group of early 19th-century buildings, Gwilt's





Tower power: The restored late-19th-century manager's office at Surrey Docks and (inset) homes at New Concordia Wharf

Nos 1 and 2 warehouses at West India Dock, with an adjacent transit shed, as the centrepiece of the proposed "People Draw" leisure and entertainment complex.

Though use of dock basins for water recreation presents problems, which can be overcome by altering water levels and constructing false quays and jetties, the tidal Thames is much more hostile to leisure boating and water pursuits. LDDC officers have been talking to the Port of London Authority, the Greater London Council and river users about the possible use of the Thames Barrier to turn the river into a less hostile environment. The scope is immense, but the obstacles formidable. Though expressly excluded by the Barrier Act, this ought to be looked at again.

TA

Housing – from low-cost to luxurious

Weaving a way through the maze of streets enclosed by 19th-century industrial and warehouse buildings south of the Thames and just east of Tower Bridge, the first impression is that little has changed.

Then you come to one cleared area, another with new housing and overlooking the river the massive New Concordia Wharf, which has been converted into 60 flats, with a further 79 flats and houses – and restaurant – to come. Developed by the Jacob's Island Company, who are also responsible for the renovation of the Anchor Brewhouse by Tower Bridge, the waterside warehouse provides "shell" flats, they cost from £105,000 to £150,000, are a splendid example of the imaginative ways in which the Docklands area is being filled with a wide variety of housing.

A few hundred yards east of New Concordia Wharf is Cherry Garden Pier, a seven- acre site whose future was put to open competition. There were 160 entries – which shows the attraction of such important sites – and development is to be undertaken by Lovells in conjunction with architects Ralph Lerner and Richard Reid.

Lovell Farrow Construction Ltd has completed one development at Lavender Green in Surrey Docks, and in addition to partnership arrangements with the LDDC, is also involved in negotiations with private interests for housing developments both north and south of the river.

The river, of course, provides a wonderful backdrop, and waterside developments are highly prized, but the Docklands provides large "inland" areas which allow parkland development. It is nevertheless the river which is the main focus.

There were the beginnings of a private housing market in one or two riverside parts of Docklands before the creation of a development corporation.

In recent years the scale of housing development activity changed beyond recognition with projects of all kinds taking place, including the conversion of old breweries and Victorian warehouses, full of what estate agents describe – justifiably for once – as "style and character".

Housing for owner-occupation was among the first projects promoted by the new corporation. In order to stimulate housing projects and to fulfil its aim of introducing owner occupation to the working people of the area, the corporation agreed with private sector developers a programme of sales of houses within a low price range. Land was sold to house builders at around £75,000 an acre compared with the level of £200,000 that might have been achieved if higher price housing had been permitted.

Now three and a half years into its life, the work of the LDDC is put in perspective by Dave Morgan, the housing manager. In 1981 there were 14,000 dwellings housing about 40,000 people, of which 95 per cent were in public ownership. Since then there have been 76 housing sites under construction.

Speaking of the corporation's policy, Mr Morgan asserts the pressing need to achieve a wider mixture of housing tenure, so that at several sites there will be, side by side, housing for rent, for sale and for shared ownership, irrespective of which agency constructed the houses.

On corporation sites now under construction, house prices range from £30,000 to £110,000. The corporation agrees with developers the price structure, and there is a built in provision to give local people a chance to buy. For one month when houses go on sale, they are available only to people currently tenants of the Corporation or the local authorities covering the area.

On privately owned sites, over which the corporation has influence only as the development control authority, the price range is from £30,000 to £200,000, with the most expensive in converted warehouses or in waterside development.

As confidence has grown in Docklands, so the architectural style of the houses has changed and become more imaginative and varied. The early developments, particularly those away from the river, are typical suburban, conventional, houses and flats. Now houses are being built in a much modern style.

Regalian Properties are refurbishing a former council block at Riverside Mansions, Garnet Street, in Tower Hamlets, agreeing that 50 of the units should be sold to council nominees at a fixed price of £26,500 for a two bedroom maisonette, while the remainder will be sold at more than £43,000. The scheme produced a waiting list of more 400 people for the flats.

A little further east, Packadel Properties has two developments in Narrow Street. In Ratcliffe Wharf the three-bedroom flats and penthouses cost from £197,000 to £285,000; at Ronco Wharf the two, three and four bedroom flats cost from £110,000 to £285,000.

Barratt has several developments in Docklands, covering a wide range, from £33,000 for a one-bedroom house 300 yards from the Thames on the Isle of Dogs, to its Gun Wharf developments – a listed former spice and tea warehouse – now converted into 64 studios, apartments and penthouses, at £55,000 to over £325,000.

Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

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London Docklands

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

So modern but concert parties still flourish

It is in itself a comment on the current life and times of the City that the latest edition of the Takeover Code should be bound in loose-leaf form, the easier to incorporate changes and new statements of practice. While the General Principles and the principal rules appear to have been done by wear and tear into a coherent set of guidleines, there are many loose ends around the edges which will bear amendment in the light of events.

Just as the code has evolved over the years, so have the Takeover Panel's methods of administering it in what its officils have considered the most effective way. Those methods have had to adapt to the fact that takeover practitioners have become adept at second-guessing panel verdicts. Until today, the standard tactic has been to draw up rules which were aimed at covering every eventuality. But that has proved futile and self-defeating.

The new code signals a different emphasis in those tactics. Increasingly, the message from the panel to the merchant banks has been: "If in doubt, ask first". That enables the panel to deliver instant rulings on fresh ruses for those willing to comply. But the boldest and brightest stars of the takeover game – and game it is to many of those who make their living from advising combatants – will always be able to shoot first and answer questions afterwards.

The real conundrum is how the new players from foreign parts will face this arrangement after they are allowed to buy full control of stock market firms next year. Many fear that they will flout the hallowed spirit of the code and dare anyone who disagrees to take them to court. The present director-general and guardian of the tablets, Tim Barker of Kleinwort, Benson, argues that most people in a foreign land bend over backwards to play down their foreignness by being ultra-conformist. We shall see.

As it is, the code does much to tidy the messy business of bidders attempting to blackmail shareholders in the target company by saying they will not increase their bid. Now such claims will have to be fully and prominently hedged about, and Mr Barker is confident that the practice will wither.

More controversially, the panel has decided to scrap the ban on bidders buying in the market for the first week of the bid, and anyone with 15 per cent or more of a company's shares can add up to another 10 per cent a week without giving notice. The first rule was seen to hand profits on a plate to speculators, but did give the target's directors a breathing space which is now lost.

But, for those of a mind to use it, the classic glaring loophole remains. Struggle as they might, the architects of the updated code have not been able to come up with a watertight definition of a concert party.

This quaint term covers all attempts by groups of investors to gain control of a company without being forced to make an outright bid. If they can be deemed a concert party, then they are treated as a single entity and must obey the rules as such. Many and varied have been the strategems to depict a cohort as a rabble of infantry clustering round a beloved general. This, it can confidently be predicted, will continue to be a source of friction and resentment on both sides.

IMF nations stand firm on debt

The agenda for the scheduled Bonn summit of industrial nations in the summer may have to be rewritten if hard-bargaining talks at the IMF interim committee meeting in Washington achieve sufficient progress over the plight of sub-Saharan debtor nations like Sudan, which are deeply in arrears, to start a political momentum among industrial countries to do something to help.

Otherwise, the summit is unlikely to consider new initiatives. If the IMF were to relax its lending rules to Sudan, it would be hard-pressed to do the same for other poverty-stricken sub-Saharan countries.

Attempts by debtor nations in general to secure easier terms – for instance by putting a ceiling on interest rates or capitalizing unpaid interest – have, however, cut little ice with the summit countries.

By contrast, the main Western industrial countries have shown far greater enthusiasm for an idea, put forward by the World Bank that it should start a new subsidiary – codenamed the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) – to provide guarantees against non-commercial risks for private investment in Third World countries. The new agency could run in tandam with the Bank's existing subsidiary for joint equity ventures, the International Finance Corporation.

If the MIGA plan gets off the ground, it could be set up after the annual full IMF meeting in Seoul, South Korea, in October.

Meanwhile, Britain is showing willing to help in more straightforward ways be renewing export credits to troubled debtor countires, a gesture that should go down well with M Claude Cheysson, the former French minister, who is now trying to promote such co-operative moves with Central American countries through the EEC.

A Harty battle to defeat S & N

Matthew Brown's defence against Scottish & Newcastle's unwanted £100 million takeover bid has so far been directed more at the Office of Fair Trading and Mr Norman Tebbit than at shareholders. Yesterday'w 11-page defence document was no exception, providing some powerful arguments on why the bid should be referred, but almost no new financial information on the Blackburn brewer. Profit and dividend forecasts along with an asset revaluation will be provided "in due course", shareholders are promised.

On his return from Japan, Mr Tebbit must decide – by next Wednesday at the latest – whether to put the bid before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. And he is surely finding the massive Lancastrian campaign for reference difficult to resist.

Already Blackburn's most famous offspring, the TV presenter Russell Harty, a regular drinker at Matthew Brown's Ribblesdale Arms in Gisburn, has appealed on local radio to Blackburn to do all it can to defeat Scottish & Newcastle.

Yesterday's defence document, rather than boost the Matthew Brown share price, only compounded the market's belief that the bid will end in a reference. The shares sank 20p to 398p – well below the value of Scottish & Newcastle's offer.

It is difficult ot disagree with that verdict. As the document points out, the future of Brown's four Breweries with 600 employees would almost certainly be at risk under S & N, which already has enough spare capacity to brew Matthew Brown's *entire* production. Brown's claim that beer prices "would almost certainly rise" under S & N is less easy to verify but does at least warrant further examination.

But most important of all, the brewing industry is littered with names of once famous regional breweries and brands which dissappeared after being taken over by a national company. This surely cannot be a good thing either in terms of competition, consumer choice or employment.

Dollar slumps 7 pfennigs as US growth rate plunges

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Economic growth in the United States dropped sharply to an unexpectedly weak rate of 1.3 per cent in the first quarter, its lowest level since the end of 1982 when the economy was climbing out of severe recession.

Confirmation of the slowdown sent the dollar down sharply on the foreign exchange markets. It fell about seven pfennigs to DM2.975 against the mark, before recovering slightly.

The pound benefited from the dollar's decline, reinforcing speculation that British base rates could soon edge down a notch further. It closed 1.23 cents higher in London at $1.2885, and up 0.2 at 79.6 on the sterling index, having touched 79.9 at one point. Later in New York the pound rose to $1.2915.

The domestic financial markets were also encouraged by the March figures for the public sector borrowing requirement, which left the outturn for the 1984-85 financial year at £10.1 billion, below the £10.5 billion which the Government estimated at Budget time.

Having eased yesterday, money market rates are now comfortable discounting base rates of 12.5 per cent, and there is speculation that National Westminster and Lloyds banks will soon cut their rates to this level from 13 per cent, leapfrogging the other two big banks Barclays and Midland on 12.75 per cent.

The US figures released yesterday by the Commerce Department prompted the White House to issue a statement expressing disappointment with the growth, which it said was "clearly below expectations."

Mr Malcolm Baldridge, the Commerce Secretary, said the figures suggested that the Administration's forecast of 1985 growth of 4 per cent was too optimistic. Gross national product would have to expand at an average brisk pace of 4.9 per cent in the final three quarters to achieve annual growth of 3.9 per cent. "That will be difficult" Mr Baldrige said.

Earlier, at a private meeting of finance ministers in Washington, some US officials had given a warning that the American economy, "The engine of world growth over the last year" was slowing faster than expected. They said US growth could slow to an annual rate of just 3 per cent in 1985.

The GNP figures confirmed the slowdown reflected earlier in the Commerce Department's "flash forecast" which had, however, predicted more robust growth of 2.1 per cent in the first quarter. This compared to growth in the final quarter of 1984 of 4.3 per cent.

The decline in first quarter GNP followed earlier reports that retail sales dropped sharply last month by 1.9 per cent, that US personal consumption declined by 0.5 per cent in March, industrial production remained flat and corporate profits, after tax, were also down by a revised 0.5 per cent or $700 million in the final quarter of last year.

White House officials blamed the slowdown on a sharper than expected decline in net exports, which reflected the effects of the strong dollar (which has been dropping steadily in recent weeks).

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said, however, that the Reagan Administration continued to believe the economy remains "on a steady path of growth with low inflation". He said the key to maintaining the trend was progress in reducing record federal budget deficits of more than $200 billion.

Market report, page 23

Syndicates may face £22m loss

By Alison Eadie

Merrett Syndicates, one of the largest independent underwriters in the Lloyd's insurance market, has estimated that its main marine syndicate 418/417 will produce a loss of up to £17 million for the 1982 underwriting year. Individual names with a £50,000 share in the syndicate will have to stump up £7,500 to £10,000 to cover the losses.

Losses on the small non-marine syndicate 421 are even higher, involving names in a loss of £15,000 to £20,000 for every £10,000 share, and an overall syndicate loss of up to £5.6 million. A total 2,500 Lloyd's names will be affected.

The losses result from claims or likely claims from pollution, seepage and asbestos-related insurance policies. Large provisions have been made because of the American army's law suit against Shell for the seepage of chemicals into the earth at the Rocky Mountains base that Shell leased from the army. The army has filed a suit of $1.85 billion (£1.43 billion) against Shell.



Mark Cox: temporary relief from underwriting losses

These claims ajone would not have resulted in a loss, but the syndicates' results were worsened by a number of "run-off" contracts, which assume the long-tail liabilities of other insurers.

Mr Stephen Merrett said the contracts were". Outside the traditional scope of our business and, in hindsight, they represent poor underwriting judgement".

Despite the losses, he said, they were "confident present market conditions provide the basis for a potentially profitable period of underwriting."

Names on another Lloyd's syndicate – marine syndicate 895 which includes the tennis players Mr Mark Cox and Miss Virginia Wade – should get some temporary relief from the approximate £20.5 million losses facing them.

Rolls-Royce soars to profits of £20m ahead of privatization

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

Rolls-Royce, the state-owned aeroengine manufacturer which the Government wants to privatize before the next election, returned to the black last year with a net profit of £20 milion, compared with the previous year's record losses of £193 million.

The figures, the group's best financial performance for more than a decade, are expected to be improved on this year as the benefits of the cost cutting and heavy redundancy programme of the ast few years continue to produce results.

Sir Francis Tombs, the chairman, said yesterday: "I think we are now on fairly solid ground. We are pleased with the speed of the turnround". He refused to be drawn into giving any date for when the company might be ready to return to the private sector, however, beyond reiterating the Government's public statement that it hopes to complete the process within the life of this Parliament.

The most likely date for a sale is 1987, by when Rolls-Royce hopes to be able to show three years of sustained profitability.

Sir Francis said: "We are looking forward to privatization: "because we think the right place for Rolls-Royce is in the private sector. We do not think of it as the Government disposing of us, but rather of our returning to our rightful place in the industrial scene." Rolls-Royce was taken into state ownership in 1971 when its losses forced it into receivership.

Yesterday's return to profits was achieved despite turnover up by little more than the rate of inflation.

Net borrowings have been cut by £94 million to £256 million. For the first time in four years Rolls-Royce has not made any provisions for redundancy and restructuring costs.

Rolls-Royce's pretax profit was £26 million, against the previous year's £114 million loss.

Takeover bid for Debenhams denied

Harris Queensway, the furniture retailer, has denied that it intends to launch a takeover bid for Debenhams. However, it might be tempted into the fray if a third party was to bid for the department stores group, Ian Griffiths writes.

The two companies linked up last June through a joint venture which gave Harris Queensway a controlling interest in Debenhams' furnishings and electrical goods operations.

Mr Peter Davis, deputy chairman of Harris Queensway, said yesterday: "We did not intend to bid for Debenhams then and we do not intend to do so now. Nine months' hard work have been invested in the joint venture and we now have a valuable position to protect. We would have to consider that position very carefully if an unwelcome third party were to launch a bid."

Mr Davis confirmed that this would include the possibility of making a counter bid. He added, however, that if control of Debenhams did change then Harris Queensway's interests would still be protected.

The joint venture lost £4.5million for Harris Queensway in 1984 and restricted the increase in pretax profits. These rose to £27.3 million from £25.6 million, on sales of £370.4 million against £225.4 million. A final dividend of 2.75p makes 4p for the year against 3.5p last time

Tempus, page 23

IN BRIEF

Entrad wins only 6.3%

Entrad's bid for Tootal failed miserably as the Australian company gained acceptances from only 6.3 per cent of the textile group's shares in its final offer, which closed yesterday. Entrad's bid has now lapsed.

But Tootal's chances of remaining independent in the long run remain minimal after the intervention of J. Rothschild Holdings, which bought a further 3 million Tootal shares yesterday to take its stake to 8.2 per cent.

Entrad owns 29.9 per cent of Tootal so more than 38 per cent of Tootal is now in two blocks. Both may be looking for a trading profit although J. Rothschild maintains it has bought for investment and has no alternative bid in mind.

New restaurants

Whitbread has agreed to TGI Friday's Inc, of Dallas, Texas, a subsidiary of Carlson Cos Inc, to open TGI Friday's theme restaurants in Britain under licence. The number has still to be arranged.

Atari Corporation has pulled out of an electronics trade show in California throwing into question its plans to launch two new home computers this year. Meanwhile Atari has brought new lawsuits against its chief rival, Commodore, aimed at blocking it from introducing a new personal computer.

Bank strategy

Worthen Banking Corporation has unveiled a $32 million (£24 million) recapitalization plan that could leave 72 per cent of the troubled bank holding company in the hands of the Arkansas financier Mr Jackson Stephens, his family and his Indonesian ally, Mr Mochtar Riady.

£26m Domino

Hill Samuel is offering for sale 5.5 million 200p shares in Domino Printing Sciences which manufactures continuous ink jet printers and supplies associated inks. Domino will have a Stock Exchange value of £26 million at the offer for sale price. Pretax profits have grown from £500,000 to £1.8 million over the last two years.

63% profit rise

Ward White, the footwear to motor accessories retailer, made taxable profits of £14.3 million in the year to January 31, an increase of 63 per cent. The total dividend was raised to 5.694p, up 15.5 per cent.

Tempus, page 23

BHP-Shell have 49.9% of Woodside

By Our City Staff

Shell Australia and Broken Hill Proprietary (BHP) have almost won control of Woodside shares in the market.

Marquarie Bank, which is advising the two companies, said yesterday that their combined stake had now reached 49.96 per cent after about 8.5 million shares were picked up yesterday, and firm orders would be enough to take the total more than 50 per cent.

Shell and BHP announced their bid, valuing Woodside at A$800 million (£435 million) or A$1.60 a share last week. They already jointly held a 42.6 per cent stake and said at time that Woodside's difficulties in raising funds were jeopardizing development of the liquefied natural gas project in which the three companies are involved on Australia's north west shelf.

The bid took Woodside by surprise and its directors said the offer significantly understated Woodside's value.

As part of the takeover plan, Shell and BHP have said they will strengthen Woodside's equity base with a A$200 million rights issue to which they will subscribe.

They also plan to put two additional directors on the Woodside board.

Anvil in £10m takeover

Berkeley Exploration, 29 per cent owned by the French Elf group and 22 per cent by the independent British oil company Charterhouse, has demonstrated its own expansionist mood under its managing director, Mr Andrew Wilson, by announcing yesterday an agreed £10 million bid to take over Anvil Petroleum, writes David Young, Our Energy Correspondent.

The offer of seven Berkeley shares for 15 Anvil shares values the Anvil shares at 63.5p and the company at £10.2 million. A cash alternative, subject to the share offer becoming or being declared unconditional, values the Anvil shares at 56.9. Anvil shares last night closed up 10p at 60p.

The Anvil board said that it considers the offer fair and reasonable and is recommending its acceptance. Irrevocable acceptances equal to 25.5 per cent of Anvil's shares have already been given.

Fire damage costs £49m

An estimated £49 million worth of damage was caused by fire in Britain in February, an increase of more than 50 per cent on February 1984 when fire losses amounted to £32.2 million. British Insurance Association figures, published yesterday, show there were six fires costing more than £1 million and one warehouse fire which is estimated to have cost £5.5 million.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	991.5 (+2.7)
FT- A All Share	n/a
FT Govt Securities	92.00 (+0.42)
FT-SE 100	1,305.5 (+1.5)
Bargains	24,972
Datastream USM	113.68 (+1.87)
New York	
Dow Jones	1,273.62 (+1.32)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	12,052.82 (–244.24)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	1500.09 (–5.88)
Amsterdam:	207.7 (+1.1)
Sydney: AO	856.3 (+2.9)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1225.9 (+5.2)
Brussels:	
General	220.48 (–4.01)
Paris: CAC	218.6 (+2.3)
Zurich:	
SKA General	344.00 (+1.30)

GOLD

London fixing:
am $325.50pm-$329.75
close $327.00-$327.50 (£253-£258.50)
New York:
Comex (latest) $325.95

CURRENCIES

London:
£: $1.2885 (+0.0123)
£: DM 3.8480 (–0.0210)
£: SwFr 3.2150 (–0.0130)
£: FFr 11.7609 (–0.0179)
£: Yen 319.25 (+0.85)
£ Index: 79.6 (+0.2)

New York:
£: $1.2915
$: DM 2.9840
$ Index: 143.0 (–1.1)
ECU £0.679722
SDR £0.779998

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Base: 13 - 12½
3-month Interbank 12⅝ - 12¼
3-month eligible bills 11 15/16 - 11½ buying rate

US:
Prime Rate 10.50%
Federal Funds 7½
3-month Treasury Bills 7.66-7.62
Long bond 100 18/32 - 100 20/32; yield

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:

Dunton	22 +4
Anvil Pet	60 +10
Hadson Pet	52 +4
Goldberg, A	59 +9
Rolfe & Nolan	130 +19
Gestetner	115 +15
Bolton Tex	26 +3
Senior Eng	27 +3
Appd Holographic	230 +25
Invent Energy	1200 +130
Wolvton Laundry	39 +4
Fogarty	80 +6
Pineapple Dance	68 +5
Belhaven Brewery	59 +4
Blackwood Hodge	29½ +2½
Harris Queens	208 +12
Frost, J. J. & D.	75 +5
Electronic Rent	47 +3

FALLS:

Betec	77 –10
Reardon Smith	17 –2
SI Group	37 –4
Vosper	250 –25
Comb Tech Corp	25 –2
W. W. Group	190 –15
Flextech	68 –5

To Booker Shareholders

Reject the Dee Bid

Booker's three main activities have very strong market positions, vigorous management and outstanding prospects for growth.

Booker's 1985 forecasts confirm this

- profit up 22%
- earnings up 25%
- dividends up 28%

Dee's bid has major financial disadvantages, offering you

- lower attributable pre-tax profits
- lower earnings*
- lower income

Do not be misled by Dee's claim to offer you higher earnings.

*This is based on Dee including substantial exceptional property profits and on an abnormally low tax charge. As almost all the recent increase in Dee's 1984/85 profit forecast stems from property profits, a comparison based on Dee's original forecast (which did not include property profits of an exceptional nature) shows Booker had higher 1984 earnings per share. Booker has not included property profits of £8.5m before tax (equivalent to 3.4p per share after tax) categorised as an extraordinary item in its 1984 results. Booker's 1985 forecast shows earnings per share substantially ahead at 24p.

BACK BOOKER

Each Director of Booker McConnell PLC (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) has taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate. Each of the Directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

WALL STREET

	Apr 17	Apr 16
AMF Inc	19¼	20¼
AMR	42⅞	42⅝
Allied Corp	42⅞	41⅝
Allied Stores	54⅛	54⅛
Allis Chalmers	6¼	6⅞
Alcoa	33⅛	33⅛
Amax Inc	17⅜	18
Amerada Hess	30⅞	30
Am Brands	68½	68½
Am Broadcast	104⅞	105⅜
Am Can	52¼	51⅛
Am Cyanamid	52⅜	52⅞
Am Elec Power	21¾	21⅝
Am Express	41⅞	41⅞
Am Home	60⅞	60
Am Motors	3⅝	3⅞
Am Nat Res	54	54
Am Standard	28⅞	28⅝
Am Telephone	20⅞	21
Armco Steel	7⅞	7⅝
Asarco	25⅞	25⅞
Ashland Oil	39	39
Atlantic Richfield	48⅝	48⅝
Avon Products	21	21
Bankers Tst NY	66⅛	66⅛
Bankamerica	19⅛	19⅜
Bank of Boston	46⅛	46⅞
Bank of NY	40⅜	41⅛
Beatrice Foods	30	29⅝
Bethlehem Steel	17	17⅛
Boeing	62	61
Boise Cascade	41⅞	41⅛
Borden	69	70⅛
Borg Warner	20⅛	20⅛
Bristol Myers	56⅛	56⅝
BP	28⅛	27⅛
Burlington Ind	25⅝	25⅞
Burlington Nthn	51⅞	51⅞
Burroughs	61⅛	60⅝
Campbell Soup	68	68⅛
Canadian Pacific	44	43⅞
Caterpillar	33⅛	32⅞
Celanese	92	92⅛
Central Soya	24	24
Champion	21¼	21⅛
Chase Manhat	55⅝	55⅛
Chem Bank NY	40⅝	40
Chevron	34⅛	34⅛
Chrysler	37⅛	37⅝
Citicorp	45⅛	45⅛
Clark Equip	29⅞	29⅞
Coca Cola	68⅛	69⅝
Colgate	23⅝	24⅛
CBS	109⅞	115⅝
Columbia Gas	28⅛	29⅝
Combustion Eng	33⅞	32⅝
Comwlth Edison	30⅛	30⅛
Cons Edison	33⅛	33⅛
Cons Power	6⅛	6⅝
Control Data	29⅝	28⅝
Corning Glass	35⅞	35⅛
CPC Intl	47⅛	47⅛
Crane	34⅛	34⅛
Crocker Int	25⅛	25⅛
Crown Zeller	42⅛	43⅛
Dart & Kraft	90⅛	90
Deere	28⅞	28⅞
Delta Air	43⅛	43⅛
Detroit Edison	16⅛	16⅝
Digital Equip	108⅛	108⅛
Disney	79⅝	80
Dow Chemical	29	28⅞
Dresser Ind	20⅛	20⅝
Duke Power	32⅝	32⅛
Du Pont	56⅛	56⅛
Eastern Air	8⅛	8⅛
Eastman Kodak	66⅛	66⅛
Eaton Corp	51⅛	51⅛
Emerson Elect	72⅛	71⅛
Evans Prod	2⅛	2⅛
Exxon Corp	52⅛	51⅛
Fed Dept Stores	57⅛	58⅛
Firestone	19⅛	19⅛
Fst Chicago	24⅛	24
Fst Intrst Bncp	47⅜	47½
Fst Penn Corp	7⅛	7⅛
Ford	44⅛	43⅞
GAF Corp	32⅛	32
GTE Corp	40⅝	40⅝
Gen Corp	46⅞	47⅛
Gen Dynamics	67⅛	67⅝
Gen Electric	59⅛	59⅛
Gen Foods	62	61⅞
Gen Mills	57	57
Gen Motors	73⅝	73
Gen Pub Util NY	12⅝	12⅝
Genesco	5⅛	5⅛
Georgia Pacific	23⅜	22⅞
Gillette	60⅛	60
Goodrich	30⅞	30⅞
Goodyear	27	26⅝
Gould Inc	24⅝	24⅛
Grace	40⅝	41⅛
Gt Atlic & Pacific	17⅛	17⅜
Greyhound	28⅝	28⅛
Grumman Corp	25⅞	25⅞
Gulf & West	36⅝	36⅝
Heinz H. J	48	47⅛
Hercules	33⅜	33⅛
Honeywell	58⅛	58
IC Inds	33⅛	34
Ingersoll	45⅛	45⅛
Inland Steel	23⅝	23⅝
IBM	129⅞	129⅝
Int Harvester	9⅛	9⅛
INCO	14⅛	14⅛
Int Paper	50⅝	50⅜
Int Tel Tel	33⅞	34⅜
Irving Bank	36⅞	36⅛
Jim Walter	34⅛	34⅛
Johnson & John	41¾	41½
Kaiser Alumin	14⅞	14⅜
Kerr McGee	30⅝	30⅝
Kimberly Clark	52⅛	52⅝
K Mart	35¾	33
Kroger	42¾	43¼
L T V Corp	10⅛	10⅝
Litton	70	69⅞
Lockheed	48⅛	47⅛
Lucky Stores	19	18⅛
Manuf Hanover	38	37⅞
Manville Cp	7	7⅛
Mapco	32½	32⅛
Marine Midland	34	33⅛
Martan Marietta	53¼	53⅛
McDonnell	77	77⅛
Mead	40	39
Merck	102⅛	103⅛
Minnesota Mng	77⅛	78
Mobil Oil	29⅛	29¼
Monsanto	45	44
Morgan J. P.	49⅛	48⅝
Motorola	34⅛	34
NCR Corp	27⅛	26½
NL Industries	11½	11⅝
Nabisco	58⅛	58
Nat Distillers	31⅛	31⅛
Nat Med Ent	27⅞	27⅞
Norfolk South	65⅛	65⅛
NW Bancorp	27⅛	27
Occidental Pet	29⅜	29⅜
Ogden	30⅛	30⅛
Olin Corp	31⅛	31⅛
Owens-Illinois	45½	45¾
Pacific Gas Elec	18⅛	18
Pan Am	5⅛	5⅛
Penney J. C.	45⅛	46⅛
Pennzoil	49⅛	48⅞
Pepsico	53⅛	52⅛
Pfizer	44⅛	43⅝
Phelps Dodge	20⅛	20⅛
Philip Morris	91½	92⅛
Phillips Petrol	40⅛	39⅛
Polaroid	30⅛	30
PPG Ind	35⅞	37
Procter Gamble	53⅞	53⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	28⅛	28⅛
Raytheon	44⅞	45⅝
RCA Corp	42⅛	41⅝
Reynolds Ind	82⅜	83⅛
Reynolds Metal	34⅛	35⅛
Rockwell Int	35⅞	35⅛
Royal Dutch	59⅝	58⅛
Safeways	31⅞	31
Saint Lee	37⅞	37⅞
SFE Sopac	25⅛	25⅛
SCM	46⅝	45⅛
Schlumberger	38⅞	38⅝
Scott Paper	37⅛	37⅝
Seagram	41⅝	40⅛
Sears Roebuck	33	33
Shell Oil	59½	59½
Shell Trans	37⅞	37⅛
Signal Co	35⅞	34⅝
Singer	35⅞	35⅛
Smithkline Beck	61½	61⅛
Sony	16⅞	18⅝
Sth Cal Edison	24⅛	24⅛
Sperry Corp	49⅝	50
Std Oil Indiana	61½	61⅛
Std Oil Ohio	47⅞	47⅞
Sterling Drug	29⅞	30⅛
Stevens J. P.	17⅛	17⅛
Sun Comp	50⅛	50⅛
Teledyne	242⅜	243½
Tenneco	43⅞	43⅝
Texaco	37⅝	37⅛
Texas East Corp	31⅝	31⅝
Texas Inst	110⅛	110⅝
Texas Utilities	29⅛	29⅝
Textron	44⅜	44⅛
TWA	33⅛	33⅛
Travelers Corp	41⅛	41
TRW Inc	74⅛	73⅞
UAL Inc	44⅝	44⅛
Union Carbide	38⅝	38⅞
Unocal	48⅞	48⅛
Un Pacific Corp	47⅜	47⅛
Unroyal	20½	20⅛
United Brands	14	14
US Steel	27⅛	27⅛
Utd Technol	39⅛	39
Wachovia	35	35
Warner Lambert	38⅛	38⅛
Wells Fargo	55½	56
Westinghse Elec	30⅝	30⅛
Weyerhauser	28⅛	28½
Whirlpool	44⅛	44⅛
Woolworth	42⅛	42⅛
Xerox Corp	46⅛	45⅛
Zenith	21⅛	21

CANADIAN PRICES

Abitibi	53½	53
Alcan Alumin	34½	33¾
Algoma Steel	23½	23⅛
Bell Telephone	39⅛	39⅝
Can Pacific	60	59⅝
Comnco	15⅛	15⅛
Cons Bathurst	16⅝	16½
Gulf Oil	19⅝	20
Hawker/Sid Can	20½	20½
Hudson Bay Min	8⅛	7⅞
Imasco	26⅛	26⅛
Imperial Oil	54⅛	53⅝
Int Pipe	35⅛	36⅜
Mass.-Fergsn	2.85	2.85
Royal Trustco	19⅜	19⅝
Seagram	56⅛	55⅞
Steel Co	20⅛	20⅛
Thomson N 'A'	55⅛	56⅛
Walker Hram	30⅜	29⅞
WCT	15⅛	15⅞

● Ex div a Asked. c Ex distribution b Bid k Market closed n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded y Unquoted.

Prices open higher

New York (Agencies) – Wall Street prices opened higher yesterday in active trading of New York stock exchange issues.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which rose 2.76 on Wednesday to 1,272.31, was down 1.77 points at 1,270.54 in early trading.

Advancing issues led declines 642 to 302 among the 1,404 issues traded. Early turnover amounted to about 11,400,000 shares.

IBM was up ⅛ to 129⅜. AT and T was up ⅜ to 21¼ and CBS rose 8¼ to 118.

Before the stock market opened, the Government reported an abrupt slowdown for the economy. The nation's gross national product grew just 1.3 per cent in the January-March quarter.

Inflation jumped to a 5.3 per cent rate compared to 2.8 per cent at the end of last year. American personal income rose a moderate 0.5 per cent last month. But disposable income fell 0.5 per cent because of delays in income tax refunds.

Consumers also abruptly cut their spending in March for both goods and services, with personal spending down 0.5 per cent.

● The chairman and chief executive of Phibro-Salmon, Mr John Gutfreund, estimated that pretax income for the company's first quarter would "compare favourably" with the pretax income earned in the previous year's first quarter.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £'s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric tonne.
G W Joynson and Co report

RUBBER
May 720–885
Jun 730–705
Jly 740–715
Aug 750–725
Sep 760–735
Oct 770–745
Nov 780–756
Dec 750–765
Jan ..... unquoted
Jun/Sept 750–725
Oct/Dec 780–755
Jan/Mar ..... unquoted

SUGAR
May 105 6–106.0
Aug 111.2–111.4
Oct 115.2–115.4
Dec 121.0–122.0
Mar 133.4–133.6
May 138.4–139.4
Aug 143.4–144.4

COCOA
May 1909–7
Jly 1897–5
Sep 1848–47
Dec 1795–4
Mar 1892–91
May 1800–1793
Jly 1905–1780
Vol 3294

COFFEE
May 1987–4
Jly 2030–25
Sep 2075–70
Nov 2098–7
Jan 2107–2
Mar 2094–80
May 2070–60
Vol 4962

GAS OIL
Apr 229.75–29.25
May 227.50–27.25
Jun 222.00–21.75
Jly 221.25–21.00
Aug 224.25–23.75
Sep 228.00–25.00
Oct 231.00–29.00
Nov 234.00–29.00
Dec 238.00–30.00
Vol 1884

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices; Official turnover figures
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE
Cash 1172–1174
Three months 1157–1157.50
T/O 11250
Tone ..... Easy

STANDARD CATHODES
Cash 1159–1163.0
Three months 1158.0–1159.0
T/O ..... Nil
Tone ..... Idle

TIN STANDARD
Cash 9345–9350
Three months 8315–8320
T/O 1075
Tone ..... Easy

TIN HIGH-GRADE
Cash 9345–9350
Three months 9320–9330
T/O 235
Tone ..... Quiet

LEAD
Cash 302–304.0
Three months 302–302.50
T/O 1925
Tone ..... Barely steady

ZINC STANDARD
Cash 687–690
Three months 681–682
T/O 6700
Tone ..... Steady

ZINC HIGH GRADE
Cash 705–715
Three months 695–705
T/O 500
Tone ..... Quiet

SILVER LARGE
Cash 498–500
Three months 514–516.0
T/O 29
Tone ..... Steady but quiet

SILVER SMALL
Cash 498–500
Three months 514–516
T/O ..... Nil
Tone ..... Idle

ALUMINIUM
Cash 884–885.0
Three months 880–881
T/O 6950
Tone ..... Easy

NICKEL
Cash 4220–4240
Three months 4210–4220
T/O 664
Tone ..... Easier but quiet

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
London Gold Futures were unquoted.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION:
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 18:
GB: Cattle, 96.45p per kg lw (–0.43).
GB: Sheep, 241.82p per kg est d c w (–15.79).
GB: Pigs, 79.85p per kg lw (–1.13).

England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 16.0 per cent, ave. price, 96.66p (–0.37).
Sheep nos. down 30.1 per cent, ave. price, 242.28p (–15.87).
Pig nos. down 3.0 per cent, ave. price, 79.68p (–1.15).

Scotland:
Cattle nos. down 7.5 per cent, ave. price, 95.81p (–0.57).
Sheep nos. down 45.4 per cent, ave. price, 236.67p (–21.97).
Pig nos. down 29.0 per cent, ave. price, 85.68p (+0.66).

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES MARKET

Month	Wheat Close	Barley Close
May	£119.35	£115.85
Jul	£123.35	
Sep	£99.55	£98.85
Nov	£102.50	£102.40
Jan	£106.25	£105.85
Mar	£109.45	£109.15

Total lots traded
Wheat 207
Barley 55

APPOINTMENTS

Business Council of British Columbia: Mr Ron Grauhalm, president and chief executive of the Johnston Group, has been elected chairman of the council.

National House-Building Council: Mr Basil Bean, chief executive of Merseyside Development Corporation, has been appointed director-general of NHBC, succeeding Mr Andrew Tait.

Timeplex Incorporated: Mr Bryan Gray has been made vice-president international.

Minet Holdings: Mr Paul Cotterill is now a director.

ICC International Maritime Bureau: Mr Charles Gibb has been appointed chairman and will succeed Sir John Cuckney.

Clydesdale Bank: Sir Eric Yarrow has been elected chairman in succession to Sir Robert Fairbairn, who has retired.

C T Bowring Reinsurance: Mr A D G Clark, Mr B H T Elliot, Mr A C McCallum, Mr J Metcalfe, Mr I D Morton, Mr H C L Prior, Mr D F D Rogers and Mr N D Wiltshire have been made directors.

Merrill Lynch Relocation Management International: Mr Stephen Hartley becomes director of British sales and marketing activities and Mr A G Hickie has been made operations director for Britain.

J Sainsbury: Mr Robin Whitbread will be director of produce from the end of the month. Mr Michael Conolly becomes director of marketing.

Crusader Insurance: Mr Joseph M Tumbler and Mr Michael Tyrrell have joined the board of directors.

Alexander Howden: Mr M R McDermott and Mr R Drain have become directors.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

The Interbank: Monday rate opened on 14 per cent to 13¾ per cent and edged down to 13⅞ to 13½ per cent by midday. In the afternoon, it firmed again, and it reached 14 per cent before mid-afternoon. But it fell away once the American GNP figure was seen at 2.30. By the close, money was answering to 12 per cent.

The mood of the period rates had been more cautious until the US figures were announced. After that, the market had an exuberant hour of trading, that brought rates easier again.

By the close, they were mostly ⅛ or ¼ down from the overnight positions, certainly discounting an early cut in base rates to 12½ per cent, and even looking beyond that to 12 per cent before long.

There was brisk business in straight deposits in most periods, and sizeable turnover in paper.

Base Rates %
Clearing Banks 13-12¾
Finance House 14

Discount Market Loans%
Overnight: High 13½ Low 12
Week fixed: 13⅛-13

Treasury Bills (Discount %)

	Buying	Selling
2 months	12⅛	2 months 11⅞
3 months	11¾	3 months 11⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)

1 month	12⅝–12¼	2 months	12⅛–11⅞
3 months	11⅝–11½	6 months	11⅜–11

Trade Bills (Discount %)

1 month	13⅛	2 months	12⅝
3 months	12⅜	6 months	11½

Interbank (%)
Overnight: open 13⅝–13½ close 12
1 week 13⅛–13 6 months 11⅛–11
1 month 12⅝–12⅜ 9 months 11⅛–11
3 months 12⅜–12¼ 12 months 11⅛–11

Local Authority Deposits (%)

2 days	13⅛	7 days	13⅛
1 month	12⅝	3 months	12¾
6 months	11½	12 months	11⅝

Local Authority Bonds (%)

1 month	13⅝–13	2 months	13–12⅝
3 months	12¾–12⅝	6 months	12⅝–12
9 months	12–11⅝	12 months	12–11⅝

Sterling CDs (%)

1 month	12⅝–12⅜	3 months	12⅛–12
6 months	11⅞–11⅝	12 months	11⅝–11¾

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Dollar CDs (%)
1 month 8 45–8 35 3 months 8 65–8 55
6 months 8 85–8 75 12 months 9 45–9 35

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS %

Dollar		call	8⅛–7⅛
7 days	8⅛–7⅛	1 month	8⅛–8
3 months	8⅛–8	6 months	8⅛–8⅛
Deutschemark		call	5–4⅞
7 days	5–4⅞	1 month	5⅛–5
3 months	5⅛–5	6 months	5⅛–5
French Franc		call	10–9⅞
7 days	10⅞–10⅝	1 month	10⅞–10⅝
3 months	10⅞–10⅝	6 months	10⅝–10⅜
Swiss Franc		call	5–4⅞
7 days	5–4⅞	1 month	5–4⅞
3 months	5–4⅞	6 months	5⅛–5
Yen		call	5–4⅞
7 days	6–5⅞	1 month	6–5⅞
3 months	6–5⅞	6 months	6–5⅞

GOLD

Krugerrand* (per coin)
$336.50–338 (£260–261.50)
Sovereigns* (new)
$756.50–78 (£58.50–60.50)
*Excludes VAT

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for interest period 6 March 1985 to 2 April 1985 inclusive 13.618 per cent

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The dollar fell back sharply after the release of a much slower-than-expected US growth rate.

It dropped about seven pfennigs within half an hour to touch a low of DM2.9725 before closing DM2.9925, still 3.35 pfennigs down on the overnight level.

The pound, which had been lower for much of the day, strengthened on the news although it subsequently closed below the best.

The effective exchange rate, which had been at 79 at 2pm, off the bottom for the day, improved to 79.9 at 3pm after the figures had been announced.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

	Market rates day's range April 18	Market rates close April 18	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.2605-1.2980	$1.2870-1.2900	0.47-0.45c prem	1.16-1.12c prem
Montreal	$1.7139-1.7574	$1.7400-1.7457	0.42-0.37c prem	1.06-0.97c prem
Amsterdam	4.3382-4.3888fl	4.3429-4.3667fl	2¼-2⅝c prem	6¼-5¼c prem
Brussels	77.28-79.08f	77.28-77.55f	4.7-3.5c prem	15-12c prem
Copenhagen	13.8062-14.0000k	13.8062-13.9500k	4¼-3½ore prem	8¾-7½ore prem
Dublin	1.2300-1.2392p	1 prem-9p disc	4 prem-14p disc	11 prem-34p disc
Frankfurt	3.8276-3.8927m	3.8450-3.8610m	2¾-2½pf prem	6½-6pf prem
Lisbon	213.38-223.26e	216.05-220.42e	140-525e disc	455-1515e disc
Madrid	213.86-217.62p	213.88-215.13p	par-25p disc	75-110p disc
Milan	2453.70-2488.50lr	2462.07-2474.87lr	1 prem-3lr disc	2-7lr disc
Oslo	11.1335-11.3667k	11.1335-11.2884k	par-1¼ore disc	par-3¾ore disc
Paris	11.7750-11.9710f	11.7374-11.7906f	2¼-2c prem	5¾-4¾c prem
Stockholm	11.2396-11.3948k	11.2396-11.3890k	¼-1¼ore disc	3¼-4¼ore disc
Tokyo	315.93-321.92y	319.05-320.44y	1¾-1¾y prem	5-4¾y prem
Vienna	27.00-27.45sch	27.00-27.14sch	14-12¼gro prem	37-33¼gro prem
Zurich	3.1977-3.2461f	3.2046-3.2250f	2¼-2c prem	5¾-5¼c prem

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up 0.2 at 79.6 (day's range 79.9-78.9).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina peso*	515.36-516.42
Australia dollar	1.9891-2.0047
Bahrain dinar	0.4850-0.4930
Brazil cruzeiro*	6124.08-6157.06
Cyprus pound	0.7750-0.7900
Finland marka	8.0240-8.1010
Greece drachma	168.80-172.60
Hong Kong dollar	10.0310-10.0350
India rupee	15.43-15.63
Iraq dinar	n.a.
Kuwait dinar (KD)	0.3850-0.3930
Malaysia dollar	3.1387-3.1533
Mexico peso	275-300
New Zealand dollar	2.7960-2.8312
Saudi Arabia riyal	4.8400-4.7200
Singapore dollar	2.8325-2.8467
South Africa rand	2.4320-2.4827
United Arab Emirates dirham	2.4320-2.4827

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.0450-1.0500
Singapore	2.1975-2.2050
Malaysia	2.4350-2.4425
Australia	0.6440-0.6480
Canada	1.3220-1.3535
Sweden	8.7500-8.7600
Norway	8.5500-8.6600
Denmark	10.7700-10.7750
West Germany	2.9800-2.9950
Netherlands	3.3800-3.3900
France	9.1100-9.1300
Japan	248.10-248.30
Italy	1912-1922
Belgium(Comm)	60.25-60.45
Hong Kong	7.7825-7.7840
Portugal	189-192
Spain	168.50-167.50
Austria	20.95-21.05

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel. *Lloyds Bank International.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Three Month Sterling					
Jun 85	88.30	88.52	88.30	88.57	1470
Sep 85	89.00	89.25	89.00	89.24	221
Dec 85	89.20	89.35	89.16	89.33	58
Mar 86	89.20	89.20	89.20	89.30	20
Jun 86	89.20	89.20	89.20	89.28	20
Previous day's total open interest 6388					
Three Month Eurodollar					
Jun 85	90.85	91.32	90.92	91.28	7196
Sep 85	90.32	90.74	90.31	90.70	1443
Dec 85	89.84	90.25	89.83	90.21	201
Mar 86	89.41	89.79	89.41	89.79	29
Jun 86	89.08	89.44	89.08	89.45	7
Previous day's total open interest 17927					
US Treasury Bond					
Jun 85	71-14	72-17	71-05	72-08	2834
Sep 85	70-00	71-12	70-8	71-07	26
Previous day's total open interest 2950					
Long Gilt					
Jun 85	107-06	107-29	107-00	107-09	3855
Sep 85	NT			111-11	0
Dec 85	NT			111-13	0
Mar 86	NT			111-02	0
Previous day's total open interest 3184					
FT-SE 100					
Jun 85	130.75	131.00	130.35	130.80	343
Sep 85	131.00	131.40	131.40	131.25	5
Dec 85	NT				
Previous day's total open interest 1037					

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	Gross Div %	Yld %	P/E
160	162	Aberdeen	171	+1	7.5	4.4	..
101	87½	Alba	95	..	2.8p	2.1	..
698	580	Alliance	630	● +5	34.5	5.5	..
155	118	Amer Trust	138	● ++	4.1	3.1	..
382	284	Ang Amer Sec	366	..	8.1	3.1	..
145	120	Aberdeen	135	..	3.9	3.6	..
120	88	Atlantic Assets	118	..	3.7	3.6	..
102	83	Bankers	93	● +1	3.5p	3.6	..
194	167	Barry	188	+1	1.4p	0.8	..
176	133	Bisset & Stern	157	+1	4.7	3.0	..
157	138	Br Asset Gen	151	● +1	3.7	3.7	..
215	182	Br Assets	185	● +1	9.7p	5.8	..
38½	28	Br Empire Sec	37½	..	1.3	4.7	..
373	305	British Inv	365	..	11.2p	4.6	..
73	64	Brunner	72	+1	2.9	4.0	..
89	72	Charter Agency	82	+1	3.1p	3.7	..
685	585	Continental	650	..	26.7p	4.1	..
178	141	Crescent Japan	149	-2	1.1	0.7	..
485	365	Dale	375	..	..	..	..
109	97	Derby Inv	97	..	10.2	10.5	..
103	85	Do Cap	85	..	..	..	..
256	204	Drayton Cons	255	-1	12.7	4.5	..
148	128	Drayton Far East	129	..	1.8	1.2	..
459	357	Drayton Japan	398	-2	8.6	1.9	..
172	135	Drayton Premier	165	-2	10.2	4.7	..
186	162	Dundee Lon	178	..	6.7	3.8	..
116	88	Edin Amer Asset	100	● ..	0.6	0.6	..
117	103	Edinburgh	107½	+1	3.7	3.5	..
282	224	Electric Gen	275	..	4.8p	1.7	..
351	258	English Int	345	..	9.9p	3.9	..
78	67	English Scot	67	..	1.8	2.7	..
109½	91	English NY	101	..	3.5	3.5	..
97	88	F & C Alliance	96	..	2.4	2.5	..
166	142	F&C Pacific	143	● -1	5.4	3.7	..
212	186	Family	210	● -2	8.5	4.3	..
279	242	First Scot Amer	251	● -2	12.9p	5.1	..
190	150	First Un Gen	186	● -2	8.7p	4.9	..
260	240	Fleming American	260	-5	7.5	2.5	..
288	238	Fleming Clover	283	..	12.4	4.9	..
288	238	Fleming Enterprise	284	..	11.1	4.4	..
238	208	Fleming Far East	238	..	2.9	1.2	..
169	160	Fleming Fledgling	168	..	3.6	3.5	..
498	491	Fleming Japan	498	-4	4.5	0.9	..
115	105	Fleming Mercantile	113	● -1	4.3	3.8	..
134	107	Fleming Overseas	128	..	3.3p	2.6	..
144	114	Fleming Tech	144	-1	3.1	2.2	..
334	262	Fleming Universal	325	..	9.6	3.4	..
74	69½	For Co	69	..	1.4	2.7	..
121	82	GRC Capital	100	..	..	..	..
165	155	GT Japan	158	-2	2.9p	1.3	..
515	390	General Funds	503	..	13.6	2.3	..
381	330	General Cons	348	..	13.1	5.3	..
125	105	Glasgow Stock	111	+1	2.9	2.8	..
276	231	Globe	263	..	12.5	4.8	..
278	230	Greenfriar	263	..	2.3	1.1	..
275	250	Grasmere House	263	..	5.7	2.2	..
288	255	Hambros	281	..	5.4	3.8	..
145	134	Hill (P)	138	..	12.5	9.0	..
340	288	Ivory & Sime Success	315	● +1	7.8	2.5	..
225	212	Inv Cap	213	..	5.2p	2.4	..
62	51	Japan Assets	51½	+1	0.1	0.1	..
283	272	Lake View	274	+3	8.4	2.3	..
197	162	Law Debenture	173	● +1	9.4	4.8	..
91	66	Lon Merchant Sec	84	+2	2.5	3.3	..
197	92	Lon Trust	97	..	3.5	4.1	..
96	88	Manchester	93	● +1	3.4p	3.8	..
174	147	Monks	150	..	3.4p	2.8	..
118	106	Murray Income	114	+2	5.4p	5.6	..
96	85	Murray Growth	88	● +1	2.5	2.5	..
134	112	Murray Int	116	● +2	3.4p	3.6	..
188	158	Murray Small	169	..	3.5	2.5	..

هكذا من الاصل

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Bad news from US kills midday euphoria of a record FT-SE

By Derek Pain and Cliff Feltham

For a tantalizing few minutes the stock market, measured by the 100 shares making up the FT-SE index, stood at a new high yesterday.

Around lunchtime the index was riding nine points up at 1,313 points with the much more narrow, but more influential, FT 30 share index stretching again towards 1,000 points.

But the merry romp came to an abrupt end. A few sellers appeared to clip prices and then the dollar started to give ground as the Americans disclosed GNP estimates even less impressive than expected.

The dollar's weakness hit international stocks – such as Imperial Chemical Industries and Glaxo Group – and by the close the FT-SE index was up a mere 1.5 points at 1,305.5 points. The FT 30 index, at one time 8.9 points better at 997.7, ended 2.7 points up at 991.5. Sterling's strength against the weak dollar could prompt a further cut today in domestic interest rates.

Government stocks achieved gains of up to £⅝ and in the firm conditions which prevailed the Government Borker was able to sell the rest of the 9.5 per cent 2004 "taplet".

ICI, once up 12p at 794p, had to be content with an unchanged closing price. Glaxo's gain wa clipped to just 5p at 1,215p and Grand Metropolitan's 8p gain was halved at 299.

Takeover favourits Debenhams remained in demand, up 3p to 263p. Harris Queensway, which has denied any bid intend, rose 14p to 208p on its results.

Hepworth Ceramic Holdings gianed 7p to 145p on persistent takeover talk. Pilkington Borthers jumped 9p to 285p.

The smoke signals seemed to be going out in favour of Rothmans International yesterday. Mr Nyren Scott-Malden, of de Zoete and Bevan, the broker, believes that now is the time to start buying, encouraged by a forthcoming price increase in Germany where Rothmans has 13 per cent of the market but has been going through a difficult patch.

He sees the price rise as good omen for the shares, holding the previous session's 7p gain at 177p yesterday, and is looking to 1985-86 profits of around £195 million, against an estimated £165 million for 1984.

Mr Arnold Ziff's Style shoe retailing group was on the move, with an 8p rise to 194p but Rowe and Pitman, the broker, insisted that no new developement was likely. British Land still sits on a substantial stake.

PetroGen Petroleum, an American oil group with a USM quote, has risen 7p to 51p since it disclosed plans to buy a 5 per cent stake in a Nebraska field. The company is issuing nearly 700,000 shares, about half of which will be placed, for the interest, which is in a highly promising area. PetroGen's shares came to market last year – at 80p.

Rolfe and Nolan Computer Services featured as the star attraction of a "dial a tip" service operated by a well-known Unlisted Securities Market tipster.

Despite the poor telephone connection, the message seemed to get through in the market and the shares reponded to the surprise helping hand with a jump from 111p to 113p.

The company's broker, Laing and Cruikshank, distanced themselves from some of the breathless enthusiam conveyed in the recorded message, but still believe the shares are cheap and offer good value even though profits for the present year are likely to be in the order of £400,000, well down on £571,000 previously.

Dealings are due to get under way on April 24 in Anglo-Eastern Plantations, which is coming to the market by way of an introduction from N. M. Rothschild.

At the offer price of 380p, the company is worth £12.8 million. It is raising £6.3 million from the issue, after expenses, which will go towards developing rubber, cocoa, and oil palm estates in Sumatra.

Anglo-Eastern is the vehicle for the injection of the entire estate interests of four other companies, Anglo-Indonesian Corporation, Platation and General Investments, REA Holdings, and its controlling compay, International Investment Trust of Jersey.

When Mr Rolf Schild and Mr Peter Epstein floated SE Laboratories on the stock market 22 years ago it was one of the biggest ever new issue successes – attracting a 176 times oversubscription. Now Laing and Cruickshank, the broker, has placed 1.2 million shares in its latest creation, Hmtleigh Technology, at 150p a share, putting them on 23.7 times last year's £710,000 earnings. After the flotation Messrs Schild and Epstein and families will still be firmly in control.

A substantial planting programme is developing a planted area of 9,219 hectares made up of 64 per cent oil palm, 25 per cent rubber and 11 per cent cocoa. In addition, the Indonesian Government has said it will make available a further 19,000 hectares for planting.

Because of the difficulty of predicting the course of world commodity prices, the company is not making a profit forecast, but if it had ben set up in 1984 earnings would have been £838,000.

The further improvement in the pound took some of the gloss off encouraging first-quarter sales figures from Jaguar, leaving the shares 5p lower at 292p.

Jaguar says that sales in the opening three months are a record, 13 per cent up on a year ago. In the all-important United States market, sales were up by 10 per cent and 14 per cent in Canada, while in Europe there was a 50 per cent jump in the number of cars sold in Germany, one of its fast developing markets.

Jaguar says it is now well on its way to achieving its target of 10 per cent growth in world sales this year.

Norscot Hotels made a quiet USM debut at 119p against the 113p issue price. Pineapple Dance Studio continued to revive, rising 5p to 68p.

Pentland Industries again reflected satisfaction with its profits performance, rising 15p to 655p.

Beer shares were firm. Whitbread, 182p last week, hit 200p, and Allied-Lyons, up 4p to 183p, and The Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, up 4p to 318p, were among others to advance on the feeling that breweries had been overlooked recently. Matthew Brown was down 20p at 398p as the impression grew that the bitterley contested £100 million bid from Scottish & Newcastle Breweries would be referred to the Monopolies Commission. Mansfield Brewery was up 8p at 392p on its link with Hazlewood Foods to promote cider.

Bid news fuelled interest in the oil sector. Dome Petroleum improved 15p to 195p, Carless, Capel & Leonard put on 9p at 160p, while Falcon Resources was 5p to the good at 469p. Among "heavyweights", BP was 12p ahead at one time before closing at 550p, a rise of 4p. Britoil was unchanged while Burmah came 4p off the top at 230p.

Channel Hotels and Properties, controlled by Mr David Kirch, the entrepreneur, is believed to have sold its 25 per cent shareholding in Leisuretime International to funds related to Aitken Hume International, the investment group. CHAPs, traded under the special dealing rule, sold at a price approaching 70p a share.

Ward White advanced 19p to 276p on its 65 per cent profits advance, but Laporte Industries weakened after results. European Ferries remained firm, up 2½p to 147p, ahead of figures, and Reuters rose 13p to 380p on the yearly report. Bespak continued to respond to growth in the aerosol industry, rising 13p further to 228p.

Speculation that Belhaven Brewery, headed by Mr Nazmu Virani, is about to clinch a deal lifted the shares 5p to 60p. Bunzl improved 6p to 481p. Reed Executive advanced on the back of Brook Street Bureau figures.

Christies International climbed 18p to 608p on bid talk, and Applied Holographics jumped 25p to 230p.

Commercial Union eased 3p to 224p and other composites were lower. But life insurance shares enjoyed a fillip from the report that the state's earnings-related pensions scheme is to go over to the private sector. Banks recorded modest gains.

Thorn EMI remained in demand, achieving a 8p gain to 447p as bid talk persisted.

Traded option highlights

The London Traded Option Market had its best day for more than a month yesterday with 10,719 contracts

Once again Commercial Union was an active counter, attracting 2,021 calls and 903 puts. British Telecom: ICI and Marks and Spencer were others in the limelight. The gilts contract achieved 251 calls and 170 puts.

Grosvenor Square Group buys Pinstone

By Richard Thomson

Grosvenor Square Properties Group yesterday announced a conditional agreement to buy Pinstone Holdings, the property development company, for an initial £7.1 million. A further sum, calculated on the future profitability of Pinstone developments, may be payable under the agreement. Pinstone's developments are now valued at £8.4 million.

At the same time, Grosvenor is proposing to raise about £4.5 million in a one-for-one rights issue of six million ordinary shares at 80p each to pay for part of the Pinstone acquisition.

The company anticipates profits of not less than £1 million for the year ended March 31, 1985, and intends to offer a dividend for the year of 5.5p net. For the next year, Grosvenor expects to pay a dividend of not less than 6p on the enlarged share capital.

Grosvenor's shares were suspended at 105p but will be traded again from today.

Tilbury maintains profits despite roadstone fall

By Jeremy Warner

Tilbury Group, the housebuilding to roadstone concern, yesterday reported almost unchanged pretax profits of £3 million for last year.

The group did well in housebuilding and construction, but roadstone profits, which fell from £1.1 million to £866,000 were hit by the sharp increase bitumen price because of the rising dollar and the miners' strike.

There was also a marked reduction in margins in the plant agency business and this has now been closed at a cost taken below the line of £375,000.

Mr Patrick Edge-Partington chairman, said that acquisitions were still a priority for the group but there was nothing under immediate consideration.

The group said that the current year had begun with a satisfactory workload, particularly in construction where orders are well up on last year. And despite the severe winter, a better year was expected for the roadstone business.



Patrick Edge-Partington: acquisitions a priority

However, the group's new offshoot in Scotland is likely to build fewer houses this year despite a promising start.

A final dividend of 3.4p raising the total for the year by 9 per cent to 4.8p, is being recommended.



Rentokil profits up 20%

- Profits up 20 per cent for third year in succession from continued international progress.
- 1985 to show further healthy growth.

	1984	1983	Percentage Change
Turnover	£151·369 million	£125·067 million	+21·0
Profit before tax	£ 24·751 million	£ 20·558 million	+20·4
Earnings per share	7·35p.	5·87p.	+25·2

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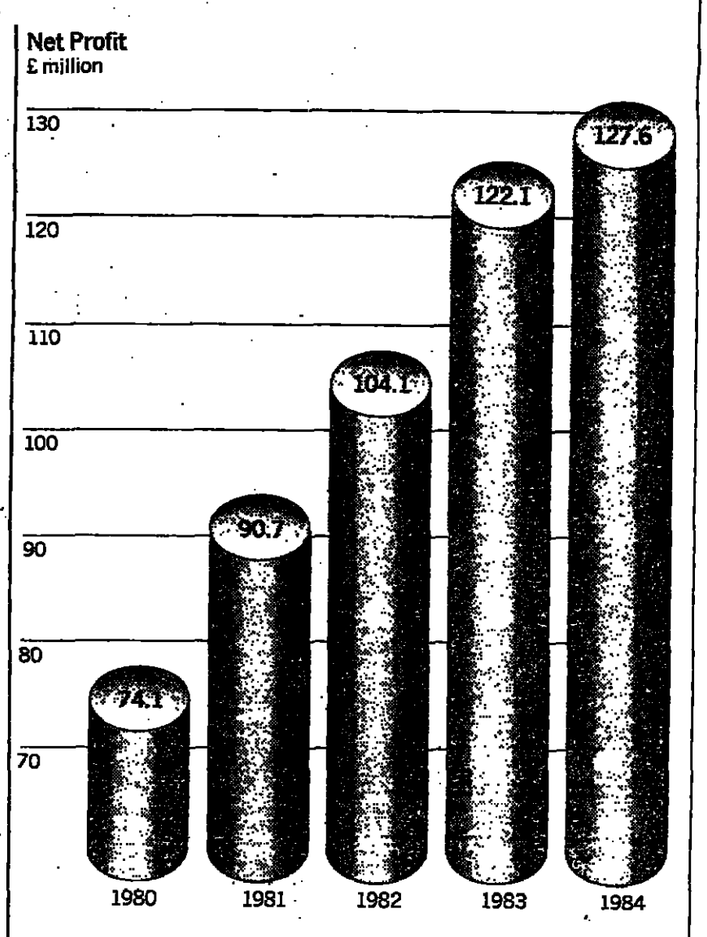
Rentokil Group PLC
Felcourt, West Sussex RH19 2JY

Ultramar

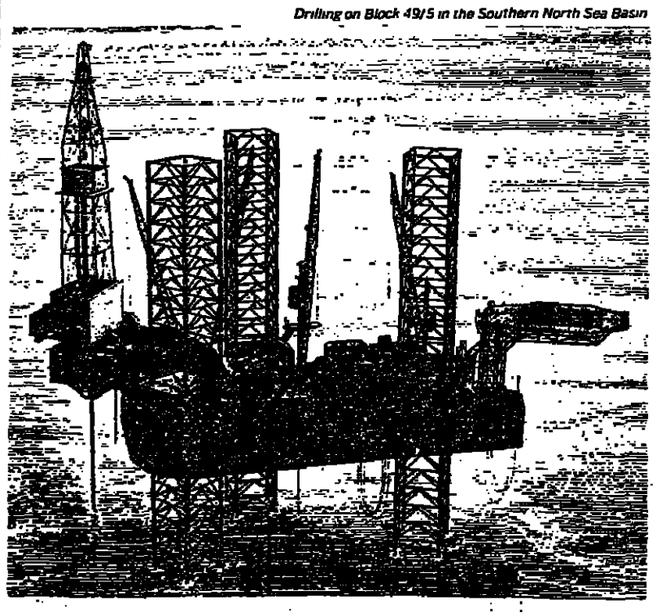
ANNUAL REPORT 1984

RECORD YEAR AND CONTINUED GROWTH

- Turnover exceeded £3 billion for the first time
- Net profit increased to £127.6 million
- Net cash dividend increased for the sixth consecutive year to 10p per share
- Oil and gas production reached all-time high of 83,000 barrels per day of oil equivalent
- Capital expenditures of £288 million included purchase of 50% of ENSTAR and additional producing interests in the North Sea
- £400 million capital expenditures projected for 1985
- Expansion of operations should be reflected in increased profitability over the next few years



Drilling on Block 49/5 in the Southern North Sea Basin



FIFTY YEARS ULTRAMAR

Ultramar

Morgan House, 1 Angel Court
London EC2R 7AU

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TEMPUS

Three Debenhams denials from Harris Queensway

It was a Debenhams denials day for Harris Queensway yesterday. The company denied that it was bidding for Debenhams; denied that it had any shares in the department store and denied that their joint venture on furnishings and electrical goods was the lame duck which some cynics had suggested. What Harris Queensway could not deny was that the losses from the joint venture took a substantial chunk out of the year's profits, leaving only £27.3 million pretax, up from £25.6 million but well below market expectations.

The City took a fairly benevolent view of the situation and after an early markdown the shares recovered and added 14p to close at 208p. There was, no doubt, an element of relief that the joint venture with Debenhams is now progressing relatively smoothly.

The losses of £4.5 million will not be repeated this year and all three divisions are now on course to make profits. Management and merchandising problems have been resolved and both parties are, publicly at least, happy with the arrangement.

If the losses which Harris Queensway incurred are added to the cost of acquiring the controlling interest in Debenhams' furnishings and electrical goods operations, then the total of £15 million is still not unreasonable for the £150 million of sales it obtained and for potential profits.

Attention on the relationship with Debenhams should not detract from the sound performance returned by the traditional businesses. Trading profit, excluding the joint venture, was up by 28 per cent on the back of improved volumes and margins. For the first time all the established divisions produced record results.

There was perhaps some surprise that the company became a net payer of interest in the year, but the gearing of 15 per cent is modest and reflects the timing of capital spending rather than a cash flow problem.

Earnings per share also took a battering largely through a tax charge up from 31 per cent to 47 per cent. This should begin to reduce in 1985 and the company should be on target for pre-tax profits of £37 million this time, the short term share price movements will be dominated by Debenhams bid developments, where Harris Queensway could still be involved, and on a longer term view they offer reasonable value.

Gilts

In theory at least, a fair number of policy options open to the authorities were resolved yesterday afternoon. The downward revision of first quarter American GNP growth to an annualized rate of 1.3 per cent emerged at more or less the same moment as better-than-expected March public sector borrowing figures of £2.5 billion.

The gilt marked bounded ahead. Quite by chance, the Government Broker was able to announce that his laggard long tapet, Conversion 9½ per cent 2004, was finally exhausted at £92 ½.

The market understands the arithmetic of the present US–UK market interplay very well indeed. A fall in US growth rates puts enormous pressure on the Federal Reserve to ease its tightish money policy, a move which ought to weaken the present overvaluation of the dollar.

The Fed's action in turn leaves sterling looking highly attractive as an alternative investment. So the authorities immediately cut rates in order to prevent sterling appreciating just as the dollar has done.

Hence the steep upward movement in short dated gilt edged stock yesterday – Exchequer 10 per cent 1989 improved by about ½ point – stemmed from expectation of base rate cuts today. Some traders claim that all the clearing banks will now come into line at 12½ per cent, or lower.

But policy is rarely so simple. Just a few weeks ago, the Governor of the Bank of England was complaining that bank lending was running ahead far too quickly, justifying, by extension, the present high level of interest rates.

Equally, the market was more or less convinced that the authorities were intervening quite heavily yesterday in the foreign exchange markets in order to slow the rise in sterling, this helps build up domestic deposits quite quickly.

The complexity of policy execution focusses in turn attention on the funding programme, and the activities of the Government Broker at 3.30 this afternoon. A hail of taps throughout the range is to common expectation, because the GB needs to sell stock quickly.

But the delicate balance which the authorities are attempting to strike between domestic and external policy considerations is matched by the present overvaluation of short dated stock, yielding about 11.3 per cent, relative to market rates. A market so far ahead of the fundamentals must, by definition, be volatile.

Ward White

Ward White seems to be having no trouble growing at a brisk pace, despite the fact that its desire to grow faster, through the acquisition of Foster Bros, was thwarted by Sears.

Taxable profits in the year to January 31 rose 63 per cent to £14.3 million, including about £700,000 property profits, on turnover 36 per cent higher. Halfords, in for 2½ months contributed £2 million pretax and the 44.7 per cent stake in Wiener, the American footwear chain, in for 10 months, contributed nearly £1 million after financing charges.

The revamp programme on Halfords stores is well underway with 100 completed and another 150 receiving the treatment this year. Sales per square foot are up substantially. The edge-of-town superstore programme is also accelerating with up to 20 planned by the year-end.

Wiener beat the trend in the US by performing well with profits 30 per cent up on the previous year. The traditional British footwear business also showed strong profit growth on the same turnover after the elimination of loss-making activities.

The group looks set to make £20 million this year, including about £1.75 million property profits. The prospective p/e ratio, on shares up 19p at 276p and assuming the same tax charge, is 12.6. Not demanding for an ambitious stores group.

Ward White is still looking for acquisitions both here and in the US, but they are becoming increasingly hard to find in the retail sector. Borrowing were half of shareholder funds at the year-end, but should come down as the cash flows in. The yield is just under 3 per cent.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.

If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Your gain or loss
	INDUSTRIALS E-K	
1	Initial	
2	Jones & Shipman	
3	Johnson	
4	GKN	
5	Ferguson Ind	
6	IMI	
7	Fisons	
8	Hampson Ind	
9	Grampian	
10	Elliott (B)	
	BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP	
11	Midland	
12	Smith St Aubyn	
13	Cater Allen	
14	Royal Bnk Of Scot	
15	Clive	
16	Aus New Z	
17	Provident	
18	Guinness Peat	
19	Ansbacher (Henry)	
20	Nat West	
	BREWERIES	
21	Guinness (A)	
22	Clark (Matthew)	
23	Distillers	
24	Marston Thompson	
25	Greenall Whitley	
26	Bellhaven	
27	Allied-Lyons	
28	SA Breweries	
29	Greene King	
30	Bass	
	MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT	
31	Quick (H)	
32	Br Car Auctions	
33	Lucas	
34	Sofec 'A'	
35	Ford Motor	
36	Woodhead (Jonas)	
37	Davis (Godfrey)	
38	Kenning Motor	
39	Dunlop	
40	AE	
©	Times Newspapers Limited Your Daily Total	

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Market firm

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End, April 26. § Contango Day, April 29. Settlement Day, May 7.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES Portfolio
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DAILY DIVIDEND
£4,000
Claims required for
+35 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Gross Div pence Yld % P/E

BUILDING AND ROADS

Aberdeen Constr 182 5.4 157 6.5 8.2
Amec 342 15.7 6.5 17.4
Arnolds 48 2.5 5.0 6.0 15.7
BPB Industries 264 10.4 4.1 9.7
Beggerridge Brick 294 12.5 5.5 10.1
Bellway Dirs 94 4.0 5.0 6.0 15.7
Bellway Dirs 97 4.0 5.0 6.0 15.7
Beazelwood
Bellway 133 5.5 4.1 7.5 12.5
Bellway Concrete 91 3.8 4.1 7.5 12.5
Bett Bros 64 2.7 4.2 7.5 12.5
Blackburn 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Blue Circle 282 11.8 4.2 7.5 12.5
Breedon&Cloud Hill 214 9.0 4.2 7.5 12.5
Brickhouse Dudley 91 3.8 4.2 7.5 12.5
Br Dredging 72 3.0 4.2 7.5 12.5
Brown&Jackson 78 3.3 4.2 7.5 12.5
Brownlee 72 3.0 4.2 7.5 12.5
Bryant 72 3.0 4.2 7.5 12.5
Balfour & Hallam 128 5.4 4.2 7.5 12.5
Cellestroad Robey 155 6.5 4.2 7.5 12.5
Carr (J) Doncaster 97 4.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
Cement-Roadstone 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Condor Inv 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Costain 286 12.0 4.2 7.5 12.5
Countryside 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Crouch (Derek) 72 3.0 4.2 7.5 12.5
Crouch Group
Daw (George) 76 3.2 4.2 7.5 12.5
Douglas (Fin) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Edih 64 2.7 4.2 7.5 12.5
Fib 110 4.6 4.2 7.5 12.5
Do 'A' 91 3.8 4.2 7.5 12.5
Finlen Lightl 91 3.8 4.2 7.5 12.5
French Kier 129 5.4 4.2 7.5 12.5
Galliford 97 4.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
Gibbs & Dandy Ord 116 4.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Glasgow (JJ) 282 11.8 4.2 7.5 12.5
HAT 92 3.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Helical Bar 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hemden-Stuart 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Heywood Williams 145 6.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
Higgs & Hill 338 14.2 4.2 7.5 12.5
IDC 70 2.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Ibstock Johnsen 283 11.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Jarvis (J) & Sons 216 9.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
Laing (J) 217 9.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
Do 'A' 217 9.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
Lawrence (Walter) 223 9.4 4.2 7.5 12.5
Lilley (LAC) 65 2.7 4.2 7.5 12.5
Lovell (YJ) 223 9.4 4.2 7.5 12.5
Magnet & South 183 7.7 4.2 7.5 12.5
Mallinson 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Marshalls (Halifax) 265 11.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
May & Hassell 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
McAlpine (Alfred) 242 10.2 4.2 7.5 12.5
Mever Int 122 5.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
Miller (Stanley) 70 2.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Mook (A) 116 4.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Mowlem (John) 210 8.8 4.2 7.5 12.5
Newarthill 283 11.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Nottingham Brick 183 7.7 4.2 7.5 12.5
Pearce (CH) Sons 72 3.0 4.2 7.5 12.5
Phoenix Timber 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Pochins 170 7.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
RMC 408 17.2 4.2 7.5 12.5
Redland 238 10.0 4.2 7.5 12.5
Roberts Adam 183 7.7 4.2 7.5 12.5
Robertson Sons 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Rutherford 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Rugby Cement 129 5.4 4.2 7.5 12.5
SGB 160 6.7 4.2 7.5 12.5
Sharpe & Fisher 70 2.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Smart (J) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Tarmac 283 11.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Taylor Woodrow 265 11.1 4.2 7.5 12.5
Tilbury Group 116 4.9 4.2 7.5 12.5
Travis & Arnold 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Trans 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Turriff 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
UBM 155 6.5 4.2 7.5 12.5
Vibroplant 155 12.9 8.1 16.0
Ward 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Warrington (T) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Watts Blake 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Wattern Bros 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Wiggins 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Wilson (Connolly) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Wimpey (George) 106 4.4 4.1 9.1

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

AKZO N/V Bearer 480 15.1
Allied Colloids 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Amershams 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Anchor Chemical 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bayer DM50 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Blagden 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brent Chems 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Br Benzol 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Br Tar Products 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cambrig (W) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ossiliq 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Coates Bros 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Corp (Horace) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Croda 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do Did 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ellis & Everard 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Halstead (James) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hickson 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hoechst DM50 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Imp Chem Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Inoms 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Leigh 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Rykin 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Synthetic 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
SWA BPD 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Stewart Plastic 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Waterlooville Rink 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Yorkshire Chem 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

CINEMAS AND TV

Anglia TV 'A' 130 5.4 4.2 7.5 12.5
Grampian 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
HTV N/V 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
HTV 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Scot TV 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
TVS N/V 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
TSW 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

DRAPERY AND STORES

ASR 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bensmanium 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bentalls (James) 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Berkeley 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brenner 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brent Name Stores 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brown (N) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Burton 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cater (A) &Sons 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Charlton 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Church (S) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Combined English 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Courts (Furn) 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Debenhams 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Dewhirst (J) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Dixons 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Dunhill 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ellis & Goldleigh 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Empire Stores (Wholesale) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Evans 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fenwick Clothes 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fine Art Dev 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ford (Sandy) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Formfitter 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Foster Bros 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Freemans 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Galen (Fin) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Gent (S) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Goldberg (A) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Goldsmiths Gp 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Grattan 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Greenfield Stocks 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Gus 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Halfed Mothercare 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Harris Queensway 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Harvey Of London 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hepworth (J) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hollis 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Home Charm 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
House Of Fraser 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
House Of Lerrose 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Jones (Ernest) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ladies Pride 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lee Cooper 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Liberty 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lincroft Kilgour 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Marks & Spencer 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Mendes (John) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
MFI 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Millets Leisure 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Moss Bros 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
NSS Newsagents 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Oliver (G) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Owen Owen 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Peters Stores 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Pressy (Alfred) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ratners (Jewellers) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Reyback 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ridelbott 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Read (Austin) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
S.S.U Stores 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Sasuel (H) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Sears 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Sirkmount 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Simpsons (B) 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Smith (WH) 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 'B' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Stanley (AG) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Sketchley 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Storehs Clothes 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Superdrug Stores 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Tilm-Comelsea 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Time Products 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ventura Vrystie 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
WW Group 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ward White 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Warley & Gillow 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Waring (Henry) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Wickerwork 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

ELECTRICALS

AB Elect 415 17.2 4.2 7.5 12.5
Amstrad 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Arlen Elec 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Atlantic Comp 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Audio Fidelity 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Auto Sec 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
BREC 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
BSR 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brentworpe 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Br Telecom 89p P 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brown Boveri Kerr 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Gross Div pence Yld % P/E

Bridgin (AF) 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
CUSE 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cable & Wireless 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cambridge Elec 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Chloride 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 7.5% Cnv 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cray Elect 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Crystalate 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Dale Elect 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Delaguery 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Dowdurst 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Dowding & Mills 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Dubilier 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Electrocomponents 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Electronic Mach 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Electronic Rentals 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Emlux Lighting 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Energy Serv 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Eurotherm 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fernell Elect 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ferranti 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
First Castle Elec 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Forward Tech 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
GEC 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Grovenor 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hazeltine Elect 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
IM Signal & Control 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Jones Stroud 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Kode 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lec Refrigeration 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Legion 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lucas 277 11.4 4.1 8.8
M Elect 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Marconi 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Micro 88 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Micro Focus 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Muirhead 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Multitone Elec 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Murray Elect 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Newmark (Louis) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
NEI 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Oceanic 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Oxford Instruments 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Pelbow 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Pincom 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Philips Fin 5½% 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Philips Lamps N/V 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Pico 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 'A' Ltd Voting 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Plessey 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do ADR 25 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Pressac 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Quest Automation 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Racal Elect 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Resource Tech 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Rotaflex 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Scholes (GH) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Skomark 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Sound Diffusion 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
STC 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Sinter 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
System Designers 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
TDK 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Telephone Rentals 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Thorn EMI 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Thorpe (FW) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Transtell Telecom 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
UEI 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Unitech 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Vinten Leasing 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Vid Scientific 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
VG Instruments 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Volex 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Western Selection 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Wholesale Fitting 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

FINANCE AND LAND

Abingworth 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Allen Hume 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Anglo-Eastern 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Barlow Hldgs 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Barkeley Tech 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bwly 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Chelsea 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cordwyn 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Controway 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hambro 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ivory & Sime 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Mercantile 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Park Place 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

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FOODS

Alpine Drinks 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Apply 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
AB Food 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Assoc Dairies 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Assoc Fisheries 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Avana 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Banks (Sidney C) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Barker & Dobson 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Baxter (Ted) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bejaset Foods 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bellapa Of Yorks 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bibbell 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bland Cont 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Br Vending (SW) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cadbury-Schwepp 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cains Brewing 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Clarnda Dishes 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Dykes 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Eagle 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fatherstone 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fitch Lovell 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Glass Glover 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Global Go 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hazlewood Foods 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hillards 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Home Farm 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Iceland Frozen 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Kwik Save 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lons (Albert) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Low (Wm) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Matthews (Bernard) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Nurseries 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Nwt Trade Supp 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Morrison (W) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Rabisco Brands 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ross 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Nichols (JH) (Vimto) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Normans 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ritlin Foods 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Sandle & Peacock 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Park Foods 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
RHM 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Rowntree Mac 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Sainsbury (J) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Scrimpertan 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Tate & Lyle 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Tesco 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Unigate 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Utd Biscuits 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Watson & Philip 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

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Grand Met 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Kennedy Brookes 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lade 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lon Park Hotels 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Mount Charlotte 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Prince Of W Hotels 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Queens Moat 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Savoy Hotels 'A' 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Stakis 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Trusthouse Forte 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

INDUSTRIALS A – D

AAH 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
ABI Research 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
ABM 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
APV 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Aaronson 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Abwood 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Alexanders W'wear 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Amber Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Amstrad 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Applied Comp Tech 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Aranson 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Arnocat 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ash & Lacey 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ashley 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Assoc Br Eng 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Assoc Paper 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Assoc Telecoms 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Avana 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do Pf Ord 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Avon Rubber 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Aymless Meat 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
BBA 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
BET Ord 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
BETEC 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
BOC 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
BTR 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Babcock 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bailey (CH) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Baird (Wm) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Baker Perkins 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bamford Int 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Barlow 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Barlam 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Barlow Rand 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Barrow Hepburn 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Barton Transport 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Baynes (Charles) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Beckman Coulte 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Beecham 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Belgrave 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bellair Cosmetics 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Belfor 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Berkshire 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Berisford (SW) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bestwood 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bevan (DF) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bibby (J) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bicc 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Biggs (J) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bimell (David) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Birmingham Mint 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Black Arrow 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Black (Peter) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Blackwood Hodge 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Blackett-Perm 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Blick 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Boolar McConnell 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Boots 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Boulton (Wm) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bowater 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bowater Inc 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brakkeulle Enc 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
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Brammer 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brengman 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bridgend Process 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bridon 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brigham-Gaudry 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Br Bldg & Eng Appl 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Br Sidac 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Br Syphon 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Br Vita 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brockhouse Hill 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bromsgrove Inds 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brook End 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brook St Bureau 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brooke Tool 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brown & Tawse 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brown (John) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Brunton (Miln) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bullough 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Bunzl 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Burnett & Hallamshire 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Burrell 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Burton-Anderson 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Butterfield-Harvey 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cadbury Eng 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cairns Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Calcutta Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Caledonia Inv 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Calor Gp 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Camford (R) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cannington Manfg 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Capper Neill 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Carborundum 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Carclo Eng 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Cartonplast (R) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Castrol 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Caterpillar 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Central & Sheer 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Centaway Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ch Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Chamberlain Ph 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Chamberlin & Hall 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Chamberlin 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Chapman 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Christie Tyler 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Christies Int 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

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Elsecom Prod 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Elson 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Emi 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Enots 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Enterprise Oil 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Evered 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Evode 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Exchange Int 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Expamet Int 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Exsel 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Falcon 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fenner (SW) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fenton Agric Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ferrier (JW) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ferguson Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fibi Indmar 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Finond 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fitch Design 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fitzwilton 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Flexello CSW 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fobel 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fogarty 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Foliot Group N/V 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fosse-Metrigas 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fothergill & Harvey 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Francis (Thomas) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Fraser & Dugdell 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Frist Inc 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
GKN 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
GRI 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Garner Eng 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Gestetner 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Gieves 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Glaco 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Glynwed 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Gomme 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Goring Kerr 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Grampian 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Grenada 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Grovebolt 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Habit Precision 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hadart 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hall Eng 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hall (W) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hallas 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hamilton Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hardcastle 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hanover 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hanson 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 6% Cnv 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Do 9 ¼% Cnv 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hargreaves 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Harris (Tilly) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Harrison Siddeley 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Harvard 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hay (Norman) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Haywards Ceramic 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Herman Smith 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hestair 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hewitt (J) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Highgate & Job 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hollis Bros 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Holt Lloyd 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hopkinsons 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Howard Machinery 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Howden 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hudson Bay 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hunting Assoc 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hunting Wharnpcn 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Hyland 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ibstock Johnsen 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Imry 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Inchcape 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Ingersoll-Rand 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Inter-City 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Jackson (Alfred) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Jacksons Bourne 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Jardine Matth 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Johnson Clemens 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Johnson Matthey 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Johnson & Fin 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Johnston 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Jones & Shipman 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Jourdan (Thomas) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Kalamazoo 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Kelsey Ind 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Kennedy Scott 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Kershaw (A) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Kitchen (Fitz Taylor) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Kleen-E-Ze 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5

L – R

LCP 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
LRC 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Laird 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lake & Elliot 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lamont 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lawtex 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lee (Arthur) 94 4.0 4.3 7.5 12.5
Lehmans 94 4.0

INDUSTRY TODAY

GEC's new sense of purpose should move a mountain

William Kay examines the plans behind the recent top-level changes at GEC, and discloses how the company's £1.6 billion cash mountain is to be invested.

The stock market has reacted cheerily to Lord Weinstock's announcement last week that significant management changes were being made at the top flight of the General Electric Company, or the GEC as insiders are fond of referring to it.

For the group's considerable army of well-wishers, the changes could not have been announced a moment too soon.

GEC was in danger of joining that unappealing species in the stock market menageries, the sleeping giant. In the past Vickers, GKN, Debenhams and others have suffered this patronizing indignity, and were it not for the universally high esteem in which Lord Weinstock is held, then that dismal label might have been pasted on the nameplate at GEC's head office in Stanhope Gate, just off Park Lane.

Some observers felt that much of the blame for this state of affairs could be laid at the door which connects Lord Weinstock's office with that of Sir Kenneth Bond, his deputy and long-standing associate. It was a door which almost never closed, and it enabled these two superb managers to bounce ideas off one another as soon as they occurred.

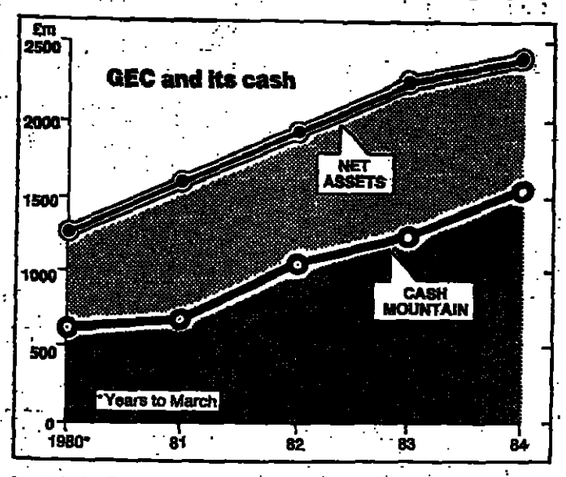
But for the same reason it had been harder to inject new blood into that charmed circle. And, such was the reputation GEC had acquired, it gradually became easier to defer or reject proposals than to risk that reputation.

To the outside world, the mountain conspicuous monument to this apparent indecisiveness is the company's notorious £1.6 billion cash mountain. Weinstock has grown used to telling interviewers that most of the most was invested in gilt-edged stock, enabling the Government to spend it on goods and services. It was not as if it was gathering dust in a vault, we were assured.

But, chorused the critics, that is not what investors buy GEC shares for, if they want a gilt portfolio, they can compile their own perfectly well.

Eventually, Weinstock agreed that some of the money would be earmarked for venture capital projects. And last year, in the face of some internal opposition, another slab of the cash mountain was sunk into the shares of Distillers Company, the spirits group famous for Johnnie Walker and Haig whisky and Gordon's gin.

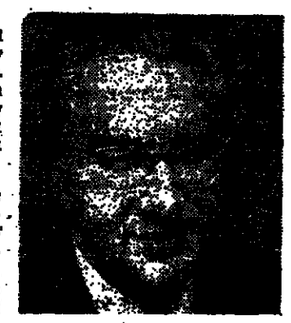
Sir Kenneth explained at the time that GEC would be willing to offer DCL itself a sleeping giant, management advice. GEC, it was implied, had plenty of talented managers with time on their hands to sort out the problems of a completely unrelated industry. That offer was never likely to be taken up by DCL's fiercely proud Scottish directors, nor has it been.



There was no doubt that the GEC leadership's approach to its £1.6 billion was becoming worryingly piecemeal and a long debate has been taking place at Stanhope Gate to evolve a more coherent policy.

The result is GEC Finance, which will operate from premises as yet unchosen, but away from head office. Only one main board director will be directly involved, Mr Ronald Grierson.

The managing director will be Mr Tony Hillier, who left the N. M. Rothschild merchant banking group last year to start his own financial business, Lothbury Services. The other



Lord Weinstock: not letting the giant sleep

key men will be Mr Philip Ralph, another former merchant banker from Hill Samuel and Mr Simon Weinstock, Lord Weinstock's son.

Although GEC Finance has enough shape to have persuaded Mr Hillier to throw in his lot with it, there are several loose ends. To start with, the much-quoted £100 million earmarked for the new subsidiary is only a starting figure. The four-man team will in practice have whatever they feel they need for the opportunities they spot.

The important point is that the bulk of the £1.6 billion stays in Weinstock's pocket, to be handed to the Grierson team on merit rather than the other way around. Last week's announcement said that GEC Finance would among other things "identify acquisitions": but whoever does the identifying, the new team would not have handled the recent takeover of the Yarrow warship yards. That sort of deal will still be the prerogative of head office.

But two main areas of responsibility will fall to GEC Finance: equity investment and what the company calls "sales aid financing".

The second activity is a widespread device to oil the wheels of industry through financial and other sweeteners. Some of GEC's customers will be surprised to learn that this group, above all, resorts to such techniques. GEC has a reputation for being nothing short of ruthless in the market place when it has the upper hand.

None the less, there is considerable scope for putting together financial packages such as extended bank credit, leasing, project finance or even equity stakes, any of which may tempt the fast-growing customer who might not otherwise be able to afford a GEC product. One example of this is Clyde Cablevision, which has bought equipment in return for GEC having an equity investment.

Previously this sort of package has been drawn up by merchant banks on GEC's behalf. By bringing the activity in house, it gives the group the added advantage of building up an extra corpus of knowledge about customers and could eventually produce an "umbrella" effect over a range of small and medium electrical companies.

That could in turn give GEC a considerable influence over the future shape of the industry, an influence it would otherwise be denied by Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

This leads on naturally to the other intended activity of GEC Finance, the gradual putting together of a portfolio of investments. Here the first priority is simply to obtain a higher return on the cash mountain than is being achieved at present.

However, the golden rule as far as GEC is concerned is only to do something yourself if you think you can do it better than anyone else. That view is clearly being taken about sales aid financing. It also applies to the management of the remaining gilts holdings, where a variety of brokers is employed to advise and execute dealings. That business will not be taken away from them.

More significantly from the point of view of the equity market, the feeling is that there is similarly no advantage to be had from trying to second-guess the City's analysts in competing to buy shares.

Last week's announcement in any case said that GEC Finance would be expected to address itself to "lines of activity less directly concerned with the existing company's businesses", so there are no plans to compile a portfolio of electrical shares.

Shares in public companies may be bought if one of the Grierson team think they have some special knowledge. But a more likely route will be venture capital in its widest sense. As a known holder of surplus cash, GEC often gets offered the chance to take part in deals. It is not widely known that it agreed to put money into the buyout of Woolworths by the Paternoster consortium, and still has a small amount of the loan stock.

The difference is that when future Woolworth-type situations arise, we can expect GEC Finance to take a more active role, and possibly even a more visible one. Nothing, after all, could give such a venture more credibility than the cachet of the GEC name.

As for the Weinstock-Bond charmed circle, that is to be widened into a 25-strong UK Board of Mangement. Obviously, no committee of 25 can make decisions positively or easily. But the newcomers will presumably see all the papers and be able to circulate papers of their own.

It will, in effect, be a standing college of cardinals who will in the fullness of time elect from among their number the long-term successor to Lord Weinstock.

However, the history of other legends of the electrical industry, such as Sir Jules Thorn or Lord Bernstein, is that they display remarkable longevity. The pretenders to the throne could have a long wait.

Bergen calls off $700m merger with National

Pittsburgh (AP-Dow Jones) – Bergen Brunswig Corp called off its merger with National Intergroup Inc, citing deteriorating conditions at its prospective partner's steel and aluminium businesses.

Termination of the merger was particularly shocking because the two companies had fought a bitterly-contested battle to win approval. National Intergroup shareholders last month voted 60 per cent in favour of the $700 million combination, which had been challenged in a proxy fight by Leucadia National Corp, a New York finance concern with a 7.2 per cent stake in National Intergroup. The merger was expected to take place in about two weeks.

Soft loans plea to Thatcher

By John Lawless

Industrialists who accompanied Lord Young to China last month have sent a private report to Mrs Thatcher saying that unless Britain is prepared to make at least a token gesture in terms of soft loans, it is unlikely to win the multi-billion pound business in the next few years.

The Department of Trade and Industry confirmed yesterday that Britain was considering such loans to match the fast-growing practice of competitors led by Japan, which trade specialists believe has put forward £5 billion worth of long-term loans at interest rates of between 3 and 6.25 per cent.

However, there is still considerable doubt as to whether Britain will follow suit. The Government's avowed intention is to let market forces have full rein in dealing with China.

Many Whitehall officials argue that its strong foreign exchange reserves disqualify it for trade-related aid.

But, with other countries breaking a five-year gentlemen's agreement not to offer concessionary finance, British industrialists are extremely concerned that they are going to be wiped out of the market. Exports to China last year were low: at about £300 million.

Companies behind the report to the Prime Minister, sent via Lord Young, are understood to include Rolls-Royce, Davy Corporation, NEI, Babcock, and Simon Engineering.

Mr Harry Harrision, the Simon chairman, said yesterday: "If we are going to be successful we should match what other countries are doing and express it as goodwill".

Soft loans had been mentioned "almost everywhere we went, not just at the formal occasions", by the Chinese, he said.

"It is real. The Japanese do it and they get preference for a job. The loan may cover half, or part of it - but they then get the follow-on work and spares as well.

"It is an expression of goodwill, showing that you understand their problems."

The DTI, Treasury (which is known to be against concessionary loans) and the Overseas Development Administration (which is concerned about how it will spread its restricted aid budget of £1,200 million this year among many priority development projects) will all have their say, but Mrs Thatcher is expected to take the final decision on the matter.

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Profit after tax and minorities	£ 41·9m	£ 11·5m	+264%
Earnings after tax per ordinary share	76·6p	26·5p	+189%

* The record 1984 results demonstrated an acceleration of the recent trend of higher profitability.

* The proposed total dividend is 12·5p on the increased capital against the payment of 10·2p for 1983.

* A one for one capitalisation issue is also proposed.

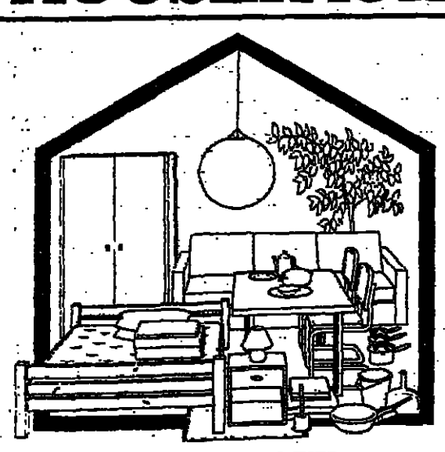
* The Group has made a good start in the opening months of 1985. Prospects for the full year are favourable.

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The 1984 Annual Report will be published on 3 May and copies may be obtained from the Secretary:

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Unocal bid defence spelt out

New York, (AP-Dow-Jones – Unocal Corporation has disclosed details of its defensive, conditional offer for as much as 49.9 per cent of its own shares, including initial interest rates of 12⅛ per cent to 14 per cent on the debt that would be exchanged for Unocal shares.

The offer, announced on Tuesday, is expected to present a formidable obstacle to an attempted takeover by a group led by Mr T. Boone Pickens Jr, chairman and chief executive officer of Mesa Petroleum.

The Los Angeles oil company will make the bid for its own shares only if the Pickens group, Mesa Partners II, succeeds in its tender offer of $54 a share cash for a majority of Unocal's outstanding shares.

Other measures contained in the conditional offer include restrictions on selling or borrowing by a prospective buyer against Unocal's own assets, and a measure that would boost the interest payable on the debt in the event of a merger or big sale of company assets.

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Adam & Company	13½%
Barclays	12½%
BCCI	13½%
Citibank Savings	†12½%
Consolidated Crds	13½%
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C. Hoare & Co	13%
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YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Money from the aid agencies

By John Lawless

Yesterday, a group of a dozen businessmen gathered – as they do every other Thursday afternoon – at the Department of Trade and Industry in London, to be told: "You don't have to be a Castain to win business from the world's aid agencies".

The weekly clinic is free to those who telephone and book a place – and is said to be so good that even American companies have tried to smuggle export salesmen into them.

A basic idea is to stress that though agencies such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and the European Development Fund disburse billions of dollars each year, many of the contracts handed out can be easily digested by small firms. As Mrs Jane Green, who heads the DTI's world aid section, says: "Suppose the major contract is for a cottage hospital system in a developing country. Well, it will still need furnishing."

The section has a staff of nine, who go to pains to point out that tapping aid schemes is a much longer-term business than most types of exporting. For sub-contractors, Mrs Green says, it usually means stressing to the relevant department in a third world ministry that your windmill, or whatever, is better than the Dutch equivalent.

If that sounds a bit daunting, Mrs Green can, again, help. She has 4,500 files of current trade information in her section, with a computer to help flip through them. Lists of potential business can even be printed free of charge. Telephone 215 3997/8.

Overdraft to success in six months

By Rebecca Eliahoo

Three years ago, David Davies had a £5,500 overdraft facility, an invoicing book, no clients and no contacts. By November 1984, David Davies Design had a £715,000 turnover and by his thirtieth birthday this year, Mr Davies expects to go well over the million-pound mark.

After graduating from Kingston Polytechnic, where he studied interior and three-dimensional design, he had a series of jobs. At David Hicks's studio, he learnt what was considered to be internationally stylish; at Conran Associates, he learnt how giants such as Sainsbury and Habitat-Mothercare operate; at Robinson Lambie-Nairn, he had a hand in animating the Channel Four logo. Head-hunted by another consultancy, he was so unhappy that he left after four days.

Mr Davies said: "The decision to start up on my own was a leap in the dark, especially as I had just taken on a mortgage. I probably did everything the wrong way. I couldn't work from



Stuart Baron, left, and David Davies: work came too fast

the flat, so I rented 75 square feet in the Old Nichol, a building run by designers in east London."

He was getting desperate when Maureen Crabbe at Marks & Spencer commissioned some designs from him. The M & S name had a snowball effect: work started flowing in fast. Too fast.

But he was in a downward spiral. Too busy designing to send out invoices, Mr Davies was not receiving any money. He had employed the services of three freelance designers almost full-time and was starting to clock up alarming print and type setting costs. His overdraft stretched to snapping point and his bank manager pulled the rug out by stopping cheques without informing him.

He had not heard of government grants or loans to small businesses. So he asked accountant Peggy U-Ming to join him full-time and employed a firm of chartered accountants to suggest management, administration and financial improvements. Mr Davies had also asked Stuart Baron, a talented designer, to become co-director.

The company moved to 3,000 square feet of offices. " I've learnt that without a steady financial and business structure, we would crumble, because we've grown so quickly", said Mr Davies, who now has 25 staff.

Hepworth commissioned the designers to re-vamp the interiors of its menswear shops then design a number of Hepworth/Next shops.

Hepworth's joint group managing director, George Davies, said: "They devised ways of getting customers from one area of the shop to another. Men don't like walking through ladies wear and vice versa. Many facets were involved in the joint Hepworth/Next venture apart from design but, none the less, turnover tripled."

A little bit of this and VAT

BRIEFING

■ The pitfalls of PAYE, choosing a computer, when to register for VAT – and whether or not to have a company are among subjects covered in a new information service from the Small Business Bureau available at £1 a sheet.

● **Contact:** *Christopher Kirkham-Sandy, SBB, 32 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HH.*

■ Need to hire someone to help the business grow? Korn/Ferry International, the executive search firm, has a British division that claims to be the only one "which combines high technology and emerging company expertise with venture financing experience".

● **Contact:** *VenSearch; brochure from 31 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4JL*

■ A firm selling home-made wine ingredients and equipment, and another which acquires stocks of vintage ports and clarets and sells them to hotels and restaurants, had something financially in common this week. Both found themselves on the list of seven companies have had a total of £3 million invested in them through the third Lazard Development Capital Fund.

● **Contact:** *21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT.*

■ Two more small business presentations are planned in Newcastle and Middlesbrough next month as part of NatWest Bank's support for the 1985 Local Enterprise Week. The target will be small firms in the embryonic stage or considering expansion. Speakers will be from the bank's small business department and from a local enterprise agency.

The Newcastle presentation will be at the Airport Hotel on May 15; the Middlesbrough one at the Marton Hotel and Country Club on May 16.

● **Contact:** National Westminster Bank area office, Bamburgh House, 35 Carliol Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE99 1NR (0632 320986).



'Purpose of my visit? To export or die'

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

The National Gallery Restaurant

THE NATIONAL GALLERY

NEW CATERING CONCESSION

The Trustees of the National Gallery will shortly be inviting tenders for the provision of a catering service at the National Gallery.

The Restaurant seats 165, is open daily, and is designed for counter service of light refreshments and beverages. High quality fare is required, with an emphasis on whole foods and fresh, natural ingredients. A minimum of hot dishes is envisaged. A table licence for wine and beer will be required.

Applications are sought from caterers who are able to demonstrate their ability to provide wholesome, well-presented food, coupled with a high quality personalised service for the large numbers of visitors to the Gallery. Prices should provide customers with good value for money. Applicants will be asked to submit specimen priced menus, a staffing structure, estimated operating costs and a trading projection together with proposed concession payments.

The contract is for a period of five years and commences on 1 October 1985. Caterers who wish to be considered for invitation to tender should reply in writing to:

A.A. Gale, ACCOMMODATION OFFICER, THE NATIONAL GALLERY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE, LONDON WC2N 5DN

to arrive not later than 1 May 1985, giving brief details of their experience and any current catering contracts they hold.

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Tender forms will be available in May and four weeks will be allowed for tendering. The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

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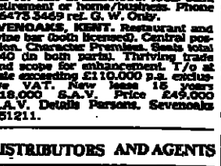
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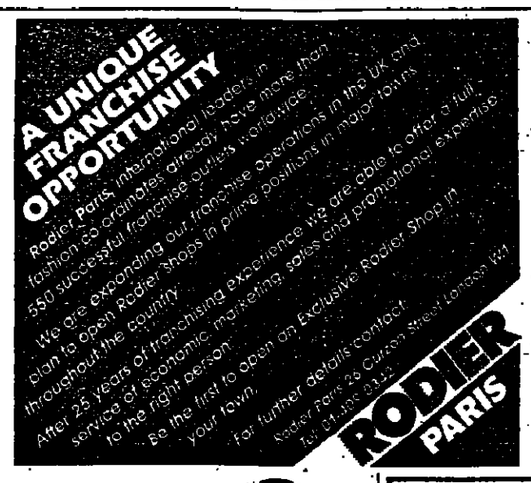
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COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary General Meetings of The London Life Association Limited and The Metropolitan Life Assurance Society and the Joint General Meeting of the Association and the Society will be held at The Armourers' Hall, 81 Coleman Street, in the City of London on Wednesday, 15th May 1985 at 12.30 p.m. to transact the following business:

1. To receive and consider the report of the Directors and the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1984 together with the report of the Auditors thereon.
2. To re-elect Directors:
(a) Mr B. M. P. Thompson McCausland and Mr A. J. R. (Jorde retire by rotation and being eligible offer themselves for re-election.
(b) Mr W. H. W. Wells having been appointed since the last Ordinary Joint General Meeting, retires and offers himself for re-election.
3. To re-appoint Price Waterhouse as Auditors and authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.
4. To transact ordinary business.

By Order of the Board
J. POCKETT
Secretary
Dated this 3rd day of April 1985

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS ☎ Trade 01-278 9161/5

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O.R. / R.R.		X	X
PEDIATRICS			X
DIALYSIS			X
OPD/ONCOLOGY	X		
MEDICAL / SURGICAL		X	
GYNECOLOGY	X	X	X
LABOUR / DELIVERY	X		X
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BR's legacy of the pit strike – a straitjacket on its future

British Rail's freight business was one of the biggest casualties of the miners' strike. Without coal to fill the wagons (below) which normally ran from pit to power station and sympathy action by some railwaymen, BR lost about £240 million. It also lost the confidence of many customers. As Railfreight managers review its locomotive building programme in the light of reduced capacity needs, James Abbott examines the strike's effect on BR



One of the industries hardest hit by the year-long pits dispute was British Rail. Reduced consumer spending in the mining areas has affected the InterCity service, lowering receipts by about £5 million. But the freight sector suffered the most: it lost about £240 million as a result of the coal strike.

During the strike there was no coal for BR to carry in the merry-go-round trains which normally travel in circuits from pit to power station and back. A quarter of the revenue loss, however, resulted from sympathy action taken by some railwaymen in support of the miners, "blacking" coal from the working mines and refusing to move iron ore into steelworks.

Whatever the cause, the Government has said that it is not prepared to make a special grant to BR to cover the effects of the strike, and BR must meet the whole £240 million shortfall itself.

In the short term, BR has had to borrow to cover its loss, but is now reviewing the prospects for its freight business in the light of the strike. The freight sector – known as Railfreight – is accounted separately from BR's passenger businesses and is expected by the Government to act as a normal commercial enterprise.

In 1983 the Government set Railfreight the target of making a 5 per cent return on capital at current cost by 1988 – and BR was well on the way towards meeting this tough target until it was hit by the pit strike, having made an £8 million trading profit on its freight business in 1983.

Undoubtedly, Railfreight will have made a large loss in 1984. But the extent will not be known until the summer as BR has changed its accounting year to end on March 31, with a transitional 15-month period.

BR not only faces substantial extra costs in interest charges on the £240 million loss (which at present rates of interest will be about £30 million a year), but also a crisis of confidence among its customers.

The BR chairman, Mr Bob Reid, says that it is not possible to tell whether the 5 per cent return target can be met until negotiations with the Central Electricity Generating Board are complete. With coal accounting for roughly 60 per cent of Railfreight's business, and most of that being power station coal, the CEGB is BR's most important customer.

During the strike, road hauliers showed their ability to shift large quantities of coal, and to do so at a price that rivals, and in some instances substantially undercuts BR.

Five million tonnes of Railfreight's 88 million annual coal load could be potential road traffic – although it is questionable to what extent Midlands villages which tolerated thundering lorry convoys during the dispute would put up with them as a long-term arrangement. But waterways are environmentally acceptable, and the CEGB is considering expansion of its use of barges.

Railfreight has a 15-year contract with the CEGB which is due for a second five-year review in a few months. However much coal traffic stays on the rails, it is certain that the CEGB, with its own finances stretched during the strike by the need to burn expensive oil, will be pushing BR hard on price.

During the dispute, the British Steel Corporation found it was able to keep the iron ore normally carried into its plants by train, flowing in by road – but at a cost.

The ore traffic is likely to remain on the rails, but British Steel's confidence in BR was severely shaken by the railwaymen's sympathetic action. Rail freight may lose some movements of coal into the steelworks and of finished steel, where BR's advantage is more marginal.

The severe blow which the coal dispute has dealt BR's freight business has forced Railfreight managers to review capacity needs. Already, a heavy freight locomotive building programme that was set to go on for several years has been cut to a total run of 50 locomotives and there are likely to be further cuts in both the physical assets and, eventually, the manpower needed to run Britain's freight railway.

The most serious effect of the coal dispute on the railways, though, could be the way in which the financial straitjacket imposed by the strike has restricted BR's freedom of action. The industry's manual unions have just agreed a pay increase of 4.85 per cent – offered, for the first time for many years, without productivity strings attached.

BR argues that productivity bargaining is best viewed as a process not tied to the annual pay round. But it cannot be denied that, with a £240 million freight revenue shortfall round its neck, BR cannot afford to face a strike over the acceptance of a productivity deal.

Thus, just when British Rail needs a productivity boost most, it is in the worst position to force the unions to accept. Could the cost of a more efficient coal industry be a less efficient railway industry?

The author is editor of Modern Railways.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **BETEC**: Final dividend 1p making 1.5p (nil) Turnover for 1984 (figures in £000) – 14,678 (13,884). Operating profit 1,248 (909). Pretax profit 1,023 (514). After interest 225 (337) and exceptional debit nil (58). Tax 298 (119). Extraordinary debit 138 (172). Earnings per share undiluted 8.29p (4.4p). Fully diluted 5.62p (3.54). The board says the results are satisfactory and reflect benefits of continuing reorganization as well as slightly better trading conditions.

● **TARMAC** has completed the acquisition of Belle Bros (Newburgh) for £2.92 million. Bell operates two large quarries in Fife, supplying a range of materials to the construction industry and the acquisition will complement the activities in that area of Kings Co; the Scottish subsidiary of Tarmac's quarry products division.

● **EXPAMET INTERNATIONAL**: In his annual statement the chairman, Mr Jeremy Beasley, says he confidently expects that, after a slow start, 1985 will show accelerated growth and he expects an outcome well in advance of 1984.

● **CHARLES TURNER** a paper mill at Bolton, Lancashire, producing tissue products, has been bought from Courtaulds by its management team, backed by County Bank Development Capital. The company, established in 1908, will now be an independant force in the British tissue manufacturing sector, under the management team led by Mr Ivor Samuel.

● **SELLERS & CO (HUDDERSFIELD)**: Textile engineers, Sellers & Co. (Huddersfield), founded 81 years ago, has been bought from Mather & Platt Group, part of the Wormald Group. David Armitage, the present managing director, will hold a controlling stake in the company. County Bank Development Capital have put together a flexible equity and term loan package which enables the directors to achieve substantial control. National Westminster Bank will provide short-term working capital facilities.

● **COVENTRY CABLE**: Equity & Law Life Assurance Society has decided in principle to acquire a minority shareholding stake in Coventry Cable from the cable television company's majority shareholders, Thorn EMI Cable Television. The acquisition will involve a purchase of 9 per cent of the present 60 per cent shares held by Thorn EMI Cable Television. The other shareholding interests of British Telecom with 25 per cent and Courier Press (Holdings) with 15 per cent each will not be affected by the new arrangement.

● **BRITISH ALCAN ALUMINIUM**: No dividend for 1984, (figures in £ million). Turnover 622.6 (549.1).

Spin is in as the banned bowler wheels back

Emburey warms his limbs as he returns from limbo

Simon Barnes



There is a certain grimness about John Emburey's approach to pre-season cricket practice.

He is out in La Manga this week, where his county, Middlesex, are playing Lancashire in three reasonably serious one-day games, doing bags of sets in the Spanish sun with blessedly warm fingers, playing golf, and quaffing copious draughts of team solidarity of an evening. But there is little frivolity about Emburey, wheeling down his attritional off spin, face like a gloomy pugilist as he contemplates the coming season, knowing that it is a crucial one for him, one that could, perhaps, decide the course of the rest of his cricketing life.

Emburey was one of the 15 cricketers who rallied to the flag of South African Breweries and toured the forbidden land for a month, and who were banned from international cricket for three years as a result. Most of them were fine cricketers with their future all behind them: a couple of them have been sorely missed during their time in limbo, which has just ended. We will be glad to see the return of Graham Gooch, the Breweries' captain; glad too, to see more of the class and guile of Emburey. He starts his official rehabilitation o Wednesday when he plays for MMC against Essex at Lord's.

"But it will be hard for me to get back into the England side," he mused, as he watched his colleagues failing to contain the Lancastrian batting. "I could be competing with Phil for a single spinner's place, and Phil is the man in possession." Phil Edmonds, his Middlesex colleague, toured triumphantly this winter for England with his slow left-armers, and, barring disasters, must be the first-choice spinner. England sides in England with two spinners have been rare items of late but, with the increasing treadiness of spin, such a combination is at least a possibility.

"You play your best bowlers, don't you?" Emburey said. "Middlesex played two spinners, in one-day or three-day games, never mind what the wicket was like, because Phil and I are two of our best bowlers. We have only played together for England once – and that is a crime."

Emburey is a passionate believer in the value of spin – I have yet to meet the spin bowler who is not. "People are starting to realize the value of spin as a container, as well as a way of taking wickets. Harper in the World Championship of Cricket in Australia, Sivaramakrishanan – the true worth has been there to see. I'm not a big spinner of the ball myself, my main strength is my control. And I am now three years more experienced than I was when I last played Test cricket, and if anything my control has improved."

For all that, it has been a long three years. "I feel as if a noose has been taken off my neck," he said. "To lose three years when at the height of your career was a big blow. Some of us didn't think we would get any sort of ban, though I always thought we would get perhaps a year."

Gooch, spokesmanning the tour, declared *ad nauseam* that his lads were just honest professionals getting paid for playing cricket. That matters were as straightforward remains a matter of dispute, but Emburey still treads the Gooch line. "It's a simple answer," he said. "People from other trades can practise their trade in South Africa, and they won't get banned from practising their trade afterwards. Is it fair that professional sportsmen are banned?"

Well, there is the point that professional sportsmen exist because of the amount of public interest they are able to generate. Cricketers are known to be a terrific way of selling cricket sweaters, insurance, cigarettes and, indeed, apartheid. The Gooch line reminds me of Wernher von Braun (the ultimate professional) in the voice of Tom Lehrer: "Vonce ze rockets are up, who care ver zey come down? Zat's not my department."

"When we went to South Africa we all of us had a month off, and no salary coming in, and we wanted to do some work, not sit around doing nothing," Emburey said. "We wanted to do something, and we did not weigh up the consequences.

"And yes, I would have made a different decision if I had known I would be banned for three years. I would have given it a lot of thought, and I would not have gone. To lose three years at that stage in your career ... I would not go now.

"To tell the truth, South Africa was not as bad as I had expected. But there is no question, it is a bloody awful thing, apartheid. It is terrible. No one from England can think anything else. But now the thing to do is to bowl well, take wickets, and get picked for England."

Emburey is 32, and reckons he will be a bowler of international standards for the next six, maybe eight years. His batting has improved dramatically during his three lost years, and the former No 11 now goes in at six. He is not unproud of a couple of first-class centuries.

There is no doubt that the three-year ban was right. Nor will the international problems caused by the tour be wafted away now the ban has run its course.

But Emburey has done his porridge. He has had three lost years. And to see two such fine spinners as Emburey and Edmonds wheeling away for England this summer against Australia would be a fine sight. Especially if they manage to win the odd Test match.

Fingers impatient to perpetrate a feat of arms for England: Emburey looks ahead after his lean spell

GENERAL ACCIDENT

Increased dividend reflects continued strengthening of asset base.

A year ago Mr Gordon Simpson told shareholders:

"Your Board have a commitment to a policy of dividend progression which can be sustained, and they recognise that, in the nature of our business, earnings as traditionally calculated will fluctuate. They are aware too that a part of our total earnings comes in the form of investment gains which are not reflected in our published earnings statement; asset value appreciation, however volatile, is an objective of investment policy which is designed to generate the maximum total return."

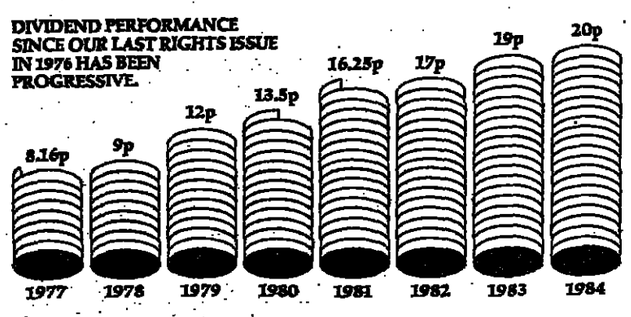
"At a time when traditional earnings are severely depressed but balance sheet earnings have never been higher, it is important to reaffirm our faith in the future."

Gordon R. Simpson
Chairman

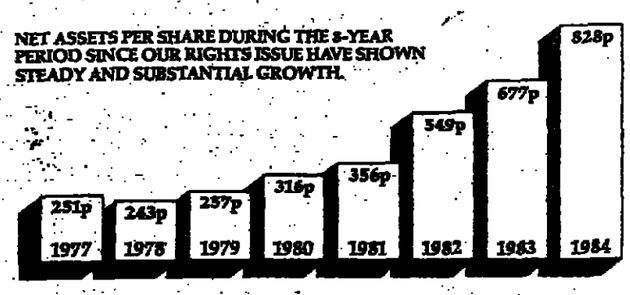
FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT 1984

RESULTS £m	1984	1983
General Premiums	1,689	1,395
Investment Income	266	213
Underwriting Loss	268	150
Life Profits	7.7	4.9
Pre-Tax Profit	3.9	65.6
Attributable Profit	9.8	62.2
Dividend per Share	20p	19p
Assets per Share	828p	677p

DIVIDEND PERFORMANCE SINCE OUR LAST RIGHTS ISSUE IN 1976 HAS BEEN PROGRESSIVE.



NET ASSETS PER SHARE DURING THE 8-YEAR PERIOD SINCE OUR RIGHTS ISSUE HAVE SHOWN STEADY AND SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH.



An unchanged interim dividend of 8p per share was declared on 15th August 1984 and the Board are recommending a final dividend of 12p per share, making a total of 20p per share (1983: 19p per share). This represents an increase of just over 5%.

Our surplus funds increased by £253 million to a total of £1,392 million, equivalent to 828p per share (1983: 677p per share).

RATING POLICY

The structure of our private car rating tables continues to be refined in line with our intention to balance premiums more precisely against claims experience. Competition, however, remains particularly keen and private car rates must harden in the market to match increasing claim frequency. The experience in commercial motor fleet business is noticeably worse than private car business and a significant increase in premium rates is essential.

In home contents insurance, development of a revised rating structure will reflect more accurately loss, particularly theft, patterns in different areas of the country.

LIFE & PENSIONS

In order to emphasise our strong determination to develop life operations as an important and integral part of General Accident the names of our two UK Life subsidiaries, Yorkshire-General and the English, were changed to 'General Accident Life Assurance' and 'General Accident Linked Life Assurance' respectively on 1st January, 1985.

General Accident Linked Life Assurance entered the unit linked market early in 1985 with a range of unique and extremely competitive contracts. Day-to-day investment management for these contracts has been placed with Edinburgh Fund Managers, in which company General Accident has taken a 10% equity interest.

OUTLOOK

Our capital base is not only undamaged by our 1984 experience, but has been enhanced to a new record level, and I am glad to say again that our total performance over the longer term has been progressive, as has been our dividend record.

1885-1985

During 1985 we celebrate the first hundred years of General Accident. The Corporation was founded in Perth, Scotland, on 16th December, 1885.

General Accident

Copies of the Annual Report & Accounts can be obtained by writing to The Secretary, General Accident Fire & Life Assurance Corporation plc., World Headquarters, Pitheavlis, Perth, Scotland PH2 0NH.

VOLLEYBALL

Mizuno up the pole in search for perch

By Paul Harrison

For a team on the verge of winning the Britvic National League, Team Mizuno are in a jittery mood. They came near to blowing up last weekend against the bottom club, Manchester, and must beat Redwood Lodge, from Bristol, tomorrow to be certain of the title.

Since Mizuno have habitually saved their best displays for their stronger rivals, and since Redwood are not yet among that élite, the match at Reynolds Sports Centre in West London is far from a foregone conclusion.

The match in Manchester last Saturday should have been. Mizuno, top, should have murdered Manchester, bottom, and in fact did lead by 2–0. Then Stuart Fullerton injured an ankle, the Londoners' shaky morale plummeted and Manchester were in a match they should have been out of.

The third set went to Manchester and they led in the fourth before Mizuno pulled themselves together and scraped to victory. Too few of their players are in good form for them to be totally confident this weekend, but if the title is lost then Mizuno will have thrown it away.

Speedwell, Rucanor, of Bristol, will be only too happy to pick it up. Their last match is against Manchester and it will be surprising if they make as much of a meal of it as the London Poles did.

Speedwell have already deprived Mizuno of a place in the English Cup final, winning 3–2 on Sunday to earn the right to meet Spark Crook Log on April 28. The Bristol side had surrendered a two-set advantage and Mizuno had set points in the fifth before Speedwell won 17–15.

Speedwell, who have been playing in Bath, are essentially a Bristol-based side and on Sunday were trying out a new venue in Bath at Soundwell. They may move back to Bristol next season to build on local support there. It is worth noting that when Mizuno played Speedwell in Bath earlier in the season they took more support with them from West London than Speedwell managed to attract for their home fixture.

Leeds are one example of a club building support on a solid home base. Their 3–2 defeat of Capital City Spikers, whose season has slipped sadly away, took them to joint fourth with Spark, 3–1 victors over Redwood.

SCHOOLS RUGBY

Solid win leaves England in good heart for Wales

By Michael Stevenson

The England 18-group will face their taxing match against Wales with much more confidence following their heartening victory over Scotland at Fylde last weekend, in which their formidable pack demonstrated power, skill and cohesion.

Generally they played 10-man rugby at Fylde with stand-off half Hamer, normally a full back, kicking a good deal; but any grumbles of discontent from the purists were met by a curt "Have a look at the score board!". One presumes that the tactical approach tomorrow at Cardiff RC (10.30 am) will be similar.

The sides have met for 40 consecutive years, Wales having won 23 times, England 15 with two draws. England have been forced to make one change through injury. Hackney, who played against New Zealand and France earlier in the season comes in for Shearman, whom he replaced during the second half at Fylde.

WALES: M Evans (Aberavon); S Allen (Neath), S Davies (Tregib Llandeilo), N Thomas (Ystalyfera), R Wilnde (Cynffig); L Evans (Cwmlawel), R Morgans (St Cyres, Penarth); J Meanwaring (St Julies, Newport), J Hudson (Morriston, Swansea), G Bundock (Amman Valley), I Davies (Amman Valley), S Cale (Craig, Llanelli), J Antonlazzi (Craig, Llanelli), J Jenkins (Neath), D Bryant (Brynmiron, Bridgend, capt).
ENGLAND: C J Parker (Chelehurst and Sidcup GS); M Preston (Kirkham GS), S Hodges (St Brendans, Bristol), D Elliott (Birkenhead), S Hackney (Stockton Sixth Form College); P Hamer (Lancaster RGS), M Calverley (Warwick); J Wells (Pocklington), G Collings (Nottingham HS), P Thompson (Ampleforth), T Withyman (Spalding GS), M Bayfield (Bedford), J Green (The Campion School, Hornchurch), S Holmes (Cockermouth School, capt), C Palmer (Dulwich).

The Cheshire 18-group, unbeaten in county matches this winter, met strong opposition during their recent tour of Romania. They lost 22-10 to a Mirsa Youth team of 18-20 year olds in extreme heat, then drew in Arad, near the Hungarian border, against a genuine 18-year-old side – Gloria. As the first English team ever to play there they were entertained at a civic reception.

Their most demanding match was against the Army Juniors, Steaua, in Bucharest, the final score was 30-16 to Steaua but Cheshire were leading 10-4, when two vast and formidable replacements took the field and, thereafter, Cheshire's fortunes dwindled.

Bloxham School visited Biarritz, where they played in a rugby festival, in which both 18 and 16-year-olds competed. They provided the Player of the Festival in their young lock, Mullin, but having beaten King Edward VII Sheffield, (36-6) they were themselves beaten by two club youth teams, Boucau (28-12) and Ondres (21-13).

Bradford Grammar School have just returned from a highly enjoyable tour of California, winning all five of their matches in comfortable fashion, though several games were harder than the score suggests. The American boys were big, strong and athletic but lacking in experience. Rugby in this area is progressing both in terms of the numbers playing and in terms of the standard. Bradford beat Bellarmine HS 39-16, La Morinda 72-4, The San Francisco Outcasts 31-8, The Del Campo Cougars 44-6, Marin Catholic HS 60-7.

HOCKEY

Leading lights at Oxford

By Joyce Whitehead

The national club championship finals take place tomorrow and Sunday at the Pressed Steel Fisher ground in Oxford. The two top clubs from five territories start in two pools: Chelmsford Clifton, Portsmouth Civil Service, Hightown and Sutton Coldfield in one; and Great Harwood, Wimborne, Slough, Bedford CHE and Ipswich in the other. Play starts at 11.0, the semi-finals are at 9.30 tomorrow and the final at 1.0.

From the statistics of territorial club tournaments it is obvious that penalty strokes play an important part: Wimborne (West) and Portsmouth Civil Service (South) got through on penalty strokes. The latter drew 0–0 with Southampton before beating them 9–5 on penalty strokes and drew 1–1 with Ealing in a semi-final before winning 9–8 on penalty strokes. Wimborne did the same in the West's semi-final and final.

Many leading players will appear in their club teams, such as Lesley Hobley, Stephanie Fryer and Amanda Pottow for Slough; Helen Bray, Sandy Lister and Tracey Wilce for Ipswich; Sue Slocombe (the England team assistant coach), Kathy Tilbury and Angie Wright for Clifton; Jane Swinnerton, Barbara Hambly and Jane Sixsmith for Sutton Coldfield; Margaret Souyave, Linda Carr (past and present England captains) and Denise Grundy for Hightown; and Valerie Robinson, whose renowned skill with the ball has made her an idol of schoolgirls and a problem for all opponents, for Great Harwood.

Since the first club championship in 1978 Chelmsford and Sutton have each won one and Slough twice in 1982 and 1983.

IN BRIEF

Adams in title chase

Neil Adams attempts to win his fifth senior European title when he competes for Britain in the senior European judo championships at Hamar, Norway from May 9 to 12. The 26-year-old Adams, silver medal winner in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles last summer, competes at the under-78kg weight in the British team named yesterday.

Other team members include the Los Angeles Bronze medal winners Neil Eckersley at under-60kg and Kerrith Brown at under-71, plus the exciting super-heavyweight prospect, Elvis Gordon, from Wolverhampton.
TEAM: Under-60kg: N Eckersley. Under-65: S Glawthorpe. Under-71: K Brown. Under-78: N Adams. Under-86: R Stevens. Under-95: N Kokotaylo Over-95: E Gordon.

BADMINTON: Middlesbrough defend their English club title in a 17-club tournament sponsored by the British Trout Association at Telford, this weekend. The £1,500 championship could be the last under the present format as organizers are considering a switch of emphasis from doubles to singles play.

Cricketers and rugby players in the wars

Hawke will back up those who back down from S African tour

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

The Fedel Government have offered to help Australian cricketers who have signed to tour South Africa, want to break their contract and who as a result may face legal action. Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, in making the offer in Parliament yesterday, did spell out how the Government would back the cricketers. The offer is part of a conceited build-up by the Government to try to head off any rebel tour by Australians.

Some leading cricketers are understood to have signed up for a tour and to be having second thoughts. Bruce Francis, the tour organizer and former Australian opening batsman, admitted in Sydney yesterday that Murray Bennett, the left-arm spinner, wanted to pull out of the tour.

Graeme Wood, the Test opening batsmen, is understood to have told the organizer that he no longer wants to go to South Africa. Similarly Dirk Wellhan, the New South Wales batsman.

Mr Francis said that the three players were among 14 Australians who had signed to play in the Republic in two tours over the next two years. Seven of the 17 members of the squad scheduled to go to England later this month for the Ashes tour are believed to have signed up for South Africa. They are Bennett, Wellham, Wood, Steve Rixon, Terry Alderman, Wayne Phillips and Rod McCurdy.

John Brown, the Federal Minister for Sport, condemned the tour. "A lot of black Africans have got very long sentences in the past few weeks and rugby grounds in South Africa are being used for funerals, he said: "I think our cricketers should bear that in mind when they want to travel to South Africa." Mr Brown advocated a lifetime ban on Australians playing in South Africa.

WELLINGTON: Ces Blazey, the New Zealand Rugby Union chairman, yesterday hinted that he would reconsider a controversial tour of South Africa if he thought the national team were in danger (Reuter reports). "If we had real reason to believe that there was danger to our players then, of course, we'd take notice of it," he said on radio.

Blazey's comments followed angry black South African reaction to the NZRU vote to go ahead with the tour later this year. Anti-apartheid campaigners said the All Blacks would be hounded by mass demonstations

Geoffrey Palmer, the New Zealand Deputy Prime Minster, said public opinion was now the only way to stop the tour. He described the NZRU decision as rugby's "day of shame".

Mr Palmer was speaking to reporters after brief airport talks with David Lange, the Prime Minister, who arrived home from a tour of black Africa only hours after the Rugby Union's 18-man ruling council voted to defy widespread domestic and international opposition and go ahead with the tour.

Church bells tolled in lament at the announcement, protesters outside rugby headquarters chanted "shame" and New Zealand's biggest anti-apartheid group, Halt All Racist Tours (HART), vowed to mobilize public opinion to stop the tour.

BOXING

June date for McGuigan in London

By Bryan Stiles

Barry McGuigan, the best boxer produced in Britain for many years, will challenge for the world featherweight title in London on June 8, after one of the most financially savage bouts of in-fighting. He will meet the long-reigning champion from Panama, Eusebio Pedroza, at Queen's Park Rangers football ground in a confrontation that will produce Britain's first £1 million gate.

When the announcement was made yesterday the engaging Irish boxer had the delightful good grace to apologize to his manager, B. J. Eastwood, for the trouble the protracted and commercially-worrying agreement had caused him and his family.

The Panamanian's handlers have raised problems that would have demoralised a Grand National jockey as they erected financial obstacles all along the expensive run-up to a title bout that has been described as the greatest in Britain since the venerated Henry Cooper bared his ambition to the then Cassius Clay way back in May, 1966.

Last month it was estimated that the title bout would cost £1.7 million to stage in London, but there has been so much more financial dealings since then that even a millionaire Irish bookmaker like Eastwood had to scratch at the botton of his satchel. But he was brought up in a hard profession that knows a winner and Eastwood's eyes will be shining if McGuigan is first past the post this summer. The potential income would be enormous, then.

The Eastwood Organisation had to buy out the commitments Pedroza had entered into at a cost of almost £250,000. Since then the champion has had to be persuaded to bring the title bout forward a month from July, and that has added to the bill.

The outlay for Eastwood's own boxer is also not inconsiderable. McGuigan knows that this could be a rare chance to reign as world champion and, dedicated trainer that he is, he wants to prepare properly for the task. He has lined up five sparring partners from the other side of the Atlantic, three of them from Pedroza's homeland. He declines to name them as he feels they might not be allowed back home if they are exposed, such is the support there for Pedroza.

All of them have sparred with the champion and all are in the same tall rangy mould, but home has the surprising box of tricks that have kept Pedroza as world featherweight title holder since April, 1978.

During his career he has had 40 wins, 23 wins, 23 inside the distance, and his three defeats were as a bantamweight. McGuigan, from Clones in Ireland, is the current European and British champion and has won his last 24 bout.

The bout will go on irrespective of the weather as the ring will be protected by a large canopy and much of the accommodation at Loftus Road is under cover.

Anders Eklund, of Sweden, could be stripped of his European heavyweight title if he does not go through with the scheduled defence against Frank Bruno, at Wembley, on May 14, after injuring his right hand in training.

TENNIS



Capped: Mark Kratzmann on his way to defeat by Youl yesterday (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Bates and Lundgren renew their war

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

The unexpected must always be expected at the beginning of a new season. Even so, the pairings for today's singles semi-finals of the British Home Stores tournament at Hampstead are almost bizarre. The eight players involved include qualifiers from Derbyshire, France and Switzerland. Only Simon Youl and Jeremy Bates have justified their seeding.

The line-up is Pascale Etchemendy (France) v Celine Cohen (Switzerland); Elna Reinach (South Africa) v Joanne Louis (Britain); Youl (Australia) v Nick Fulwood (Britain); and Peter Lundgren (Sweden) v Bates (Britain). The qualifiers are Miss Etchemendy, Miss Cohen and Fulwood, aged 21, who ranks ninth in Britain. The last four women are teenagers. Bates, two months short of his 23rd birthday, is the oldest of the men.

Yesterday was a reminder of the passing years. First, one finally risked that corny "haven't we met before" line with a pretty, vaguely familiar lady who had been hovering around the courts all week. She was Jan O'Neill, formerly Miss Lehane, one of those boisterous, tough, fun-loving Australians who had the misfortune to play at the same time as Margaret Smith, which explains why Miss Lehane, as she was then, lost four consecutive Australian finals. Back in England after 18 years, Mrs O'Neill is showing her daughter, Lisa, aged 16, what the international circuit is all about.

In Mrs O'Neill's playing days, there were no language problems. Nowadays Spanish is useful, and French too, as one found out in establishing that Miss Etchemendy is from Biarritz, Miss Cohen from Geneva. Both are aged 18, and competing in Britain for the first time. Miss Cohen's victim yesterday was Elizabeth Ekblam, runner-up for the 1976 Australian championship. The long-legged Miss Reinach, who plays Miss Louis, was runner-up to Annabel Croft in last year's junior event at Wimbledon.

Youl, aged 19, beat Mark Kratzmann, 10 months his junior, in an all-Australian match that produced the day's best tennis. Youl looked the tidier and more mature. Kratzmann the more talented. Fulwood had an admirable win over another Australian, Peter Johnston. Today Bates and Lundgren renew a private war in which the Swede leads 3-2. Yesterday Bates competently dealt with his third consecutive domestic challenger, Mark Blincow, a fervent competitor

MEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-finals: J Bates bt M Sherbrooke (Swaziland) 6-2, 6-4; P Lundgren (Sweden) bt D Stone (US) 6-1, 6-2; N Fulwood bt P Johnston (Aus) 6-4, 6-4; S Youl (Aus) bt M Kratzmann (Aus) 7-6, 6-4.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-finals: P Etchemendy (Fr) bt M Reinach (SA) 6-2, 6-1; C Cohen (Switz) bt E Ekblom (Swe) 6-3, 6-0; E Reinach (SA) bt K Karlsson (Swe) 6-3, 6-2; J Louis bt H Mansat (US) 7-6, 6-2.

David Hands meets John Bevan

Welsh coach confronts his fate after England game

When Wales play England in Cardiff tomorrow it will be not only the final five-nation championship match of the season but also the conclusion of John Bevan's three-year tenure as Welsh national coach. Whether the appointment is renewed this summer for another three years is in the lap of the Welsh Rugby Union Committee.

"At the moment can't see past Saturday," Bevan said this week. "I really don't know what's going to happen after that." It has not been a comfortable three years for the former Aberavon stand-off half who has found himself under a public spotlight far too frequently for his own liking and has endured stoically the inevitable comparisons of the teams he has prepared with those talented Welsh sides of the early and middle seventies in which he played four times.

His championship record shows five wins, one draw and five defeats, so a Welsh win tomorrow will keep him in credit. But it is not what the Welsh public have come to expect and Bevan has found it hard to maintain his stated aim, of three years ago, that though winning is important, winning with style is even more so.

Bevan, aged 30, is not an easy man to know: when he toured in New Zealand with the 1977 British Lions he is said to have maintained some slight reserve, even in a party so closely-knit as that one. Whereas many coaches find the words tumbling out, Bevan gives the impression of being ill-at-ease handling the public side of his job.

Publicity, of course, is not what he is there for but to most coaches it is a necessary evil. I understand there has been no quarrel between him and the players in his squad, one of whom this week suggested Bevan might go down as an "heroic failure" because his heartfelt desire to see the national side playing running rugby has materialized only in fits and starts: like an old film which flickers to a halt every so often. Despite the trail of players taking leave of absence from the international scene, Bevan himself denies there has ever been any tension



Bevan: avoids spotlight

between him and the older players, several of whom he played alongside. After all, Wales are not alone in having turned from established individuals, conceivably set in their concept of the game, to younger, fresher faces.

"I don't think I had any preconceived plans when I started this job", Bevan said. "We try to adapt our tactics to the occasion. Some of the press have made comments that I decree it's a 15-man game and then if we are not successful, it's my fault. But I have never told players how to play the game. All I try to do is provide as many options for the players as I can, but on the field it's the players who run the game.

"This season for instance we have won one game out of three, but on both the other two we have played well enough to win if we had taken our scoring chances. We seem to have lost the knack of scoring and in internationals, the chances don't come along too often.

"Last season we looked to be on the right patch but since then we have lost Dacey and Bowen both injured and now Ring is out of the game with England. While I don't like making excuses, perhaps that's why we haven't fulfilled ourselves this season."

Any coach is only as good as the players the selectors choose: there is no reason why Bevan should carry the can for the real or imagined ills that inflict Welsh rugby. Yet Bevan is now inextricably linked with teams bypassed by success and even if tomorrow's result goes his way, the ameliorating effect will be slight.

Hitherto Wales have tended to choose former internationals as their coaches but, if Bevan's term is to close, the pattern may be broken. He has been assisted in coaching the forwards by Terry Cobner, himself a selector and a former Wales flanker. But the more successful Welsh club coaches such as Leighton Davies (South Glamorgan Institute), Stan Addicott (Swansea and the Welsh Students) and the Cardiff duo Roger Beard and Gary Samuel, include several non-internationals. One of these may be tomorrow's man.

Sheppard gets to grips

England had an unexpected training session at Monmouth School yesterday as they continued the build-up to tomorrow's international against Wales in Cardiff.

Coach Richard Greenwood said: "It was a thoroughly worthwhile practice. One of the main features was the scrum where Austin Sheppard continued to get to grips with playing on the loose head". The Welsh squad, who went through hard sessions on Monday and Wednesday, will have a run out at the National Stadium today.

Several future internationals from both countries may be seen this weekend. The Welsh B side meets Spain this evening, the touring side having beaten the Welsh students in midweek but having lost their other two games. Tomorrow, England's Colts play the French youth in Brioude, having already beaten Italy and Wales, while Wales and England meet in the final 18-group international of the season tomorrow morning in Cardiff.

● The scorer of the Italian senior team's try against England B at Twickenham on Wednesday was Venturi, not Azzali, as reported

HORSE TRIALS

Miss Holgate leads dressage event

By Jenny MacArthur

Virginia Holgate, aiming for her first Badminton victory, had a convincing lead on British National Life Assurance's Night Cap at the end of the first day of dressage yesterday. With her best horse, Priceless, still to come – most of the top horses do their dressage today – Miss Holgate's chances of winning the Whitbread Trophy look good.

Night Cap's test was relaxed and obedient – in contrast to their over-exuberant performance at Badminton last year – and put them more than seven marks ahead of Karen Reuter, one of five riders from the United States. Mrs Reuter's balanced forward-moving test on the big 17.1 hh gelding Arbour Hill put him into second place overnight but with so many good entrants, including the Olympic gold medal winner, Mark Todd, doing their tests today the order is likely to change dramatically.

Carol Rose from Wiltshire showed she is none the worse after her frightening fall at Brigstock Horse Trials three weeks ago, when she took third place on the nine year old Master Mind. Miss Rose's authoritiative test reflected the training she has received from Richard Meade, who begins his attempt to win his third Badminton today with Milton General.

Karen Straker, the former junior European champion and, at 20, one of the younger riders competing, is lying in sixth place on Running Bear.

Despite th impressive contingent of continental riders competing at Badminton – the French and West Germans are using the event as a trial for the European Championships in September – they have so far failed to live up to their formidable reputation in the dressage field.

Claus Erhorn, one of West Germany's Olympic team bronze medal winners at Los Angeles, was disappointed with his test on the normally reliable Fair Lady. "She was a little upset with the clicks of the cameras as we went into the arena and never realy settled", he said. Erhorn, aged 26, is competing at Badminton for the first time and regards tomorrow's cross-country course as "huge and very difficult", an opinion shared by most of the riders and, evidently, by the ground jury who have applied a multiplying factor of 1.25 to the dressage scores. For years the factor of one had been used at Badminton: The higher the multiplying factor, the more difficult the cross-country is expected to be.



Miss Holgate: Fine chances

RESULTS: After first day of dressage: 1 Night Cap (V Holgate) 58.50; 2 Arbour Hill (K Reuter USA) 65.25; 3 Master Mind (C Rose) 71.25; 4 The Professional (D Nellemann-Love Denmark) 72; 5 Fair Lady (C Erhorn WG) 73.75; 6 Running Bear (K Straker) 79.75; 7 Walkabout (D Green) 80; 8 Queen's Post (D Merrett) 80.50; 9 Buckley (J Starkey) 81.75; equal 10 Malvern (C White) 82; Silent Echo (F Menzies) 82.

CYCLING: LIVERPUDLIAN WINS THE TOUGHEST STAGE

Decisive move by McLoughlin

By John Wilcockson

Joey McLoughlin, Britain's youngest professional, has taken out a strong option on overall victory in the Sealink International. The 20-year-old from Liverpool won the race's toughest stage between Trafford and Leek yesterday morning and defended his yellow jersey with authority in the afternoon.

His morning break across the Peak District with Shane Sutton, of Australia, showed that these riders' respective teams, ANC and Falcon, had buried their differences of the previous day. The two men arrived in Leek's cobbled market square at noon, 2min 28sec ahead of a depleted main group after a break of 34 miles.

Lars Jensen, of Denmark, strongly defended his overnight lead with the connivance of the Dutch amateurs, but he failed to retain his advantage by nine seconds.

In the afternoon's stage of 54 miles to Burton-on-Trent, McLoughlin had only one worry when a steep hill at Wirksworth split the main group into two, leaving him in front with only one teammate at his side. It was 15 miles before the bunch re-formed and Malcolm Elliott easily won the resultant sprint.

The decisive move of the morning was begun by a Great Britain amateur, Phil Bateman, of Leeds, who attacked halfway up the six-mile climb to the Cat and Fiddle Inn out of Macclesfield. He was joined by McLoughlin and the Great Britain amateur, Paul Watson, and then Sutton rocketed across the widening gap to give a breakaway group of four.

They quickly gained a minute and reached a tough, finishing circuit with 54 seconds in hand. Two climbs of three-in-eight Gun Hill marked the end for Watson and Bateman, while a third Britis amateur, Darryl Webster, used the hill to make a counter attack. The national hill climb champion closed to within 55 seconds of the two leaders. But Webster overshot a left turn and then slipped a gear on Gun Hill, finishing only 11 seconds ahead of the main pack.

RESULTS: Stage 5: Trafford to Leek (59 miles): 1, J McLoughlin (ANC) 2hr 31min 33sec; 2, S Sutton (Falcon) 2:31.33; 3, P Bateman (GB), amateur, at 1min 50sec; 4, D Webster (GB), amateur, at 2min 17sec; 5, S Barras (Moducel), at 2min 28sec; 6, N Barnes (Eng), amateur, same time. Stage 6: Leek to Burton on Trent (54 miles): 1, M Elliot (Raleigh), 2hr 18min 43sec; 2, D Miller (Spence), same time; 3, S Fleetwood (Ever Ready), same time; 4, Sutton, same time; 5, D Frost (Den), same time; 6, S Porter (IOM) same time

OVERALL POSITIONS: 1, McLoughlan, 11hr 55min 13sec; 2, L Jensen (Den) at 9sec; 3, Sutton, at 15sec; 4 Barras, at 1min 28sec; 5, A Jagt (Neth), at 1min 33sec; 7, Bateman, at 2min 15sec; 8, Elliott, at 2min 22sec; 9, Webster, at 2min 23sec; 10, Frost, at 2min 27sec

SNOOKER

Griffiths plays safe

Terry Griffiths sat and watched some high quality potting by Alex Higgins but still took a 5–3 lead in the second round of the Embassy world snooker championships in Sheffield yesterday. Griffiths saw Higgins make breaks of 98 in frame three, being denied a century by going in-off the pink, and 72 in frame five to go 3–2 up.

But Griffiths, whose top breaks were 43 and 37 in the entire eight frames, came back to 3–3 and then led 4–3 when he took the seventh frame 64–16.

Higgins compiled a 45 break to lead 45–16 in the eighth but Griffiths denied him another point as he picked off the remaining balls in twos and threes to win 65–54.

Steve Davis and Tony Meo both made century breaks in their respective second-round matches.

Davis, who made a break of exactly 100 the previous night on his way to a 6–2 overnight lead against David Taylor, added a clearance of 105 yesterday as he took to a 12-4 lead.

Meo scored his 123, which would have been a total clearance of 130 until he went in-off the final black.

SQUASH RACKETS: THE BRITISH OPEN

Miss Opie's amazing recovery

By Colin McQuillan

When the going gets tough, it is the tough who get going. Rarely has that cliche been better illustrated than in the third round of the Davies and Tate British Open championships, at Dunnings Mill, East Grinstead, yesterday.

Sadly for Gawain Briars and Geoff Williams, the leading British men of the moment, it was a formula which favoured their opponents, Stuart Davenport and Ross Norman, who go on to an all-New Zealand quarter-final at Wembley tomorrow. But England's top female quartet courageously dug into their reserves to dominate one half of the women's draw.

Lisa Opie, particularly, needed all the concentration and resistance she could muster to fight back against the scintillating start and stern finish of the experienced Sue Cogswell.

Now aged 33 and three times a losing British Open finalist, Miss Cogswell surprised the 21-year-old Nottingham girl who has been similarly afflicted by near-misses in the past three blue riband tournaments. Miss Cogswell opened up the court with telling cross-court drives and precision drop shots, quickly collecting the first two games before shrewdly saving herself for a finishing spurt.

Miss Opie dragged the match to level games, but found herself 3-8 adrift in the fifth. Patiently, and with exemplary discipline, the girl who shouted her way to heavy fines and long bans in last year's final, worked her way back to 8-8, 9-9, and 10-9, saving six match points before winning 7-9, 5-9, 9-6, 9-1, 10-9.

A performance almost as good came from Lucy Soutter, aged 18, from Gloucester, who beat the world No 1, Susan Devoy, at Warrington earlier in the season. Yesterday, Miss Soutter's stubbornness enabled her to resist an inventive second game counter-attack from the promising Australian, Liz Irving, to record another notable victory.

In the quarter-finals, at Wembley, Miss Opie will play Miss Cummings and Miss Soutter takes on Martine Le Moignan.

MEN: Second round: B Beeson bt F Donnelly (Aus) 9–0, 9–5, 9–0; M Ahmed (Pak) bt D Stymer (Can) 9–5, 10–8, 9–7; G Awad (Egypt) bt G El Amir (Egypt) 9–6, 10–9, 9–4; R Norman (NZ) bt U Hayat (Pak) 9–3, 9–1, 9–1; B. Beeson bt F Donnelly (Aus) 9–0, 9–6, 9–0; G Williams bt D Pearson 9–1, 9–2, 9–10, 9–8; G Briars bt S Calser (Pak) 9–3, 9–4, 9–2; D Lloyd bt J Soderberg (Swe) 9–9, 9–2, 6–9, 9–3, 9–0; C Ittimar (Aus) bt N Harvey 9–3, 9–5, 9–8; F Johnson (Swe) bt H Lasher 9–6, 9–1, 9–5, 2–9, 9–7; M Saad (Egypt) bt D Lee 9–7, 9–0, 9–5; O Zaman (Pak) bt I Robinson 9–2, 9–5, 9–4; K Khan (Pak) bt S Hallstone (SA) 4–9, 9–5, 3–9, 9–5, 9–4; K Smith (Aust) bt P Hill (Sing) 10–9, 1–9, 9–5, 9–7; P Kenyon bt R Thorne (Aus) 9–7, 6–8, 9–6, 9–6. Third round: J Khan (Pak) bt B Beeson 9–0, 9–0, 9–1; R Norman (NZ) bt G Williams 9–5, 9–6, 9–3, 9–2; S Davenport (NZ) bt G Briars 9–10, 9–5, 9–4, 9–2; G Awad (Eg) bt M Ahmed (Pak) 10–8, 6–9, 9–2, 9–0. WOMEN: Second round: R Anderson (Aus) bt S Bradey (Aus) 9–6, 9–0, 9–6; A Cummings bt C Clonds (Aus) 9–2, 9–3, 9–2; L Opie (Guernsey) bt Mrs A Cowie 9–5, 9–3, 9–6; L Irving (Aus) bt D Caldwell (SA) 10–8, 9–6, 0–9, 4–9, 9–5; N Spurgeon bt F Candy 9–7, 9–2, 9–5; H Wallace (Scotland) bt Miss D Gurran (NZ) 9–1, 9–2, 9–1; Miss J Miller (Aus) bt D Turnbull (Wales) 9–5, 9–2, 9–2; M Byrne (Ire) bt R Belford (Aus) 9–7, 9–1, 6–9, 6–9, 9–4; R Friday (Aus) bt N Tracey (Bel) 9–0, 9–1, 9–0; A Smith bt K Butterworth 9–0, 9–3, 3–9, 9–6; R Blackwood (NZ) bt R Strauss 1–9, 9–4, 9–3, 9–5; S Devoy (NZ) bt S Medlis 9–3, 9–0, 9–1. Third round: A Cummings bt N Anderson (Aust) 9–8, 9–7, 9–4; L Opie bt S Cogswell 7–9, 9–9, 9–6, 9–1, 10–9; L Soutter bt L Irving (Aus) 9–5, 8–10, 9–2, 9–0; M Le Moignan (Hants) bt S Burgess 9–3, 9–4, 9–4.

YACHTING

Unplain sailing

From a Correspondent, Cannes

Wednesday's race at the Hennessey six-metre world championships here was still causing controversy yesterday as competitors and officials disagreed over whether it should have been declared null and void.

Officials decided the 18 competitors had not complied with World Cup rules which require yachts to take no longer than an hour to complete any leg of the course. The yachtsmen maintain the race, run in the lightest of conditions, was nevertheless finished within the time limit.

A lay day was declared yesterday, and the dispute was due to be resolved at an evening meeting.

CRICKET: Lancashire have signed the Cheshire fast bowler, Tony Murphy, who took a record 85 wickets for Cheadle in the Cheshire County League last season. Murphy also claimed 45 batsmen, playing for Cheshire in the Minor Counties Competition.

Greedy fishermen and owners face accusations

By Conrad Voss Bark

FISHING

"The angling public have never had it so good. It's so much easier to catch fish these days and I think fishermen are getting greedier and greedier. In 1964 the trout in our lakes cost 65 pence a pound and the average weight of fish caught was nine ounces. In 1984 the cost is 110 pence a pound and the average weight of fish caught is up to 26 ounces. I don't know how long this kind of increase will go on but it'll have to stop sometime."

Jean Howman, who has run the highly succesful Ashmere trout lakes at Shepperton for 20 years, was lecturing a group of fishery owners and managers at the annual Two Lakes conference last year. Her audience, 95 per cent male, shifted uneasily under her accusing gaze.

She forecast with uncanny accuracy what was going to happen this year to reservoir fishing. "The water authority reservoirs are hurting the small private trout fishery. About 75 per cent of them are subsidized and uneconomic and a great many of them are going to be privatised." Within six months of that forecast four water authority trout fisheries had been leased to private management and more are likely to go private next season.

But then Jean Howman turned the lash on some of the small private fisheries. There was one in Scotland where you were asked on arrival how many trout you wanted to catch and then they put them in for you before your face.

There were some fisheries where you were allowed to put back trout that you did not want you did not want to kill but the way they were unhooked and thrown back into the water was so cruel that few survived. There were some where you paid so much per pound for the fish you caught, others where you could take a bald rod or a quarter rod, some where you could even take a two-hour rod.

"And now" she said, "pollution is killing fly life on os lakes, we are suffering from acid raid, and poaching is not only done by individuals but by gangs. At one time fishermen were happy to catch a brace of trout in a day but now they're wanting to catch more and more of a higher average weight, so that each year we find ourselves putting in bigger and bigger fish. If this goes on we shall be thousands of pounds out of pocket."

She sat down amid furious applause for undoubtedly the best speech of the conference and we all limped out into the bright sunshine thinking what brave and brilliant fellows wer were to be able to endure all those hazards and survive.

CRICKET

New Zealand routed by Garner's pace

Port of Spain, Trinidad (AP) – West Indies romped to their fourth consecutive victory over New Zealand in the present five-match series of one-day internationals here on Wednesday, winning by 10 wickets with almost half of New Zealand's allotted 50 overs remaining. Garner was the man of the match, taking four New Zealand wickets for 10 runs at the start of play. Haynes scored 85 not out for West Indies.

NEW ZEALAND

†G P Howarth c Dujon b Garner	6
J G Wright c Dujon b Garner	1
J J Crowe c Richardson b Garner	4
M D Crowe b Garner	1
J V Coney c Dujon by Richards	33
*I D S Smith c and b Holding	3
R J Hadlee c Richards b Davis	41
B L Cairns b Harper	12
J G Bracewell run out	1
G B Troup run out	4
E J Chatfield not out	1
Extras (lb 3, w 2, n-b 4)	9
Total (42.3 overs)	116

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–6, 2–10, 3–14, 4–18, 5–25, 6–83, 7–100, 8–104, 9–114.

BOWLING: Garner 6–1–10–4, Davis 6.3–1–10–1, Baptiste 6–0–31–0 (2 n-b), Holding 7–1–24–1 (1 w), Harper 10–2–18–1, Richards 8–1–20–1.

WEST INDIES

D L Haynes, not out	85
R B Richardson, not out	28
Extras (lb 2, n-b 2)	4
Total (0 wkt, 24.2 overs)	117

H A Gomes, †I V A Richards, A L Logie, †P J Dujon, E A E Baptiste, R A Harper, M A Holdings, J Garner and W W Davis, did not bat.

BOWLING: Hadlee 6–1–18–0; Troup 8–2–30–0; Cairns 6–0–50––; Chatfield 4–0–14–0; Bracewell 0.2–0–3–0.

● (Reuter) – West Indian fast bowler, Michael Holding, will be unavailable for selection against England on their Caribbean tour next year.

● Middlesex county cricket club have signed a £12,000 sponsorship agreement with Austin Reed.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Roses war declared

By Keith Macklin

With statesmanlike dignity, the Rugby League and Maurice Bamford, the Great Britain coach, have accepted what they call "constructive criticism" and have decided to make the Lancashire-Yorkshire war of the roses in September an all-out challenge match rather than a glorified Test trial.

At Monday's press conference it was stated that the teams would be selected by Bamford and coached by members of his staff. Nobody, least of all Rodstock, the sponsors, was happy with these proposals and League officials took them back for further consideration.

The result is that Bamford and his team have withdrawn to the sidelines. Lancashire will be selected and coached by Alex Murphy, a devout Lantastrian, and Yorkshire by Peter Fox, an equally devout Yorkshiremen.

"This will make the game even more competitive", David Howes, the League's public relations officer, said. "Maurice Bamford can still use the game as a guide to his international squad for the games against New Zealand".

The Wembley Challenge Cup Final on May 4 will be a sell-out at 95,000, with receipts of £750,000. Hull and Wigan have sold more than 90,000 tickets already and only personal applications can now be considered.

● Sussex are taking on the Australian all-rounder, Tony Dodemaide, on an Esso scholarship and giving an extended trial to the wickerkeeper, Peter Moores: who spent two seasons with Worcestershire.

IN BRIEF

Hearns broke two fingers

Detroit, (Reuter) – Thomas Hearns apparently broke two fingers on his right hand during his defeat by Marvin Hagler in Las Vegas on Monday night in their middleweight championships bout, Hearns' doctor said yesterday. "His hand is the size of a basketball." Dr Thomas Magnell said. He could not tell when Hearns broke the fingers but said it was a new injury.

The promoter, Bob Arum, said Hearns broke the ring and little fingers when he landed a right uppercut to Hagler's head

TENNIS: Sweden open their delayed Davis Cup defence today undistracted by fear of earthquakes but concerned that the odds have swung slightly in Chile's favour. The Swedes are without their key players, Mats Wilander and Anders Jarryd, for the first round tie.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

FA CUP: Semi-final replay: Manchester United 2, Liverpool 1.

SCOTTISH CUP: Semi-final replays: Dundee United 2, Aberdeen 1; Motherwell 0 Celtic 3.

FIRST DIVISION: Newcastle United 0, Coventry City 1; Tottenham Hotspur 0, Arsenal 2.

SECOND DIVISION: Oxford United 3, Huddersfield Town 0.

THIRD DIVISION: Derby County 4, Reading 1.

FOURTH DIVISION: Exeter City 1, Blackpool 1; Hereford United 0, Swindon Town 3; Mansfield Town 1, Stockport County 0; Northampton Town 1, Port Vale 0; Peterborough 1, Aldershot 2.

WORLD CUP: European Group Six: Switzerland 2, Soviet Union 2. European Group Five: Hungary 3, Austria 0.

GOLA LEAGUE: Gateshead 3, Frickley 2; Kettering 2, Kidderminster 2; Weymouth 1, Nuneaton 3; Maidstone 3, Altrincham 0.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Workso 1, Stafford 0; Gainsborough 1, Hyde 3. Cup final, first leg: Macclesfield 0, Rhyl 0.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Folkestone and Shepway 1, RS Southampton 2; Gloucester 0, Fisher 4; Hastings United 1, Fareham 0; Welling 2, Alresford 0. Midland division: VS Rugby 1, Aylesbury 0; Southern division: Addlestone 3, Basingstoke 0; Dover 0, Hillingdon 3; Dunstable 1, Chesham 1.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn Rovers 1, Sheffield United 0; Huddersfield Town 1, Notts County 2; Nottingham Forest 1, Newcastle United 1. Second division: Scunthorpe United 1, Doncaster Rovers 1; York City 1, Bolton Wanderers 2. Postponed: Hull City v Leeds United.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Millwall 7, Oxford United 2; Reading 1, Queen's Park Rangers 3; Portsmouth 2, Brighton and Hove Albion 2.

IRISH LEAGUE: Glenavon 1, Portadown 2.

SERVOWARM ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Second division: south: Molesey 1, Hungerford 0; Newbury 0, Horsham 2.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Collier Row 1, Corinthian Casuals 0.

SHERRADOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Glenavon 1, Portadown 2.

GREAT MILLS WESTERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple 0, Liskeard 4; Mangotsfield 1, Dawlish 1.

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying matchs: Wales 3, Belgium 3.

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Poland 2, Finland 1; West Germany 4, Bulgaria 1.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Charlton 2, Ipswich 4.

TURKISH CUP: Final, second leg: Galatasaray 0, Trabzonspor 0 (Galatasary win 2-1 on agg).

NORTH-WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Accrington Stanley 0, Curzon Ashton 0; Bootle 0, Eastwood Hanley 0; Formby 1, Leyland Motors 1; Prescot Cables 4, Netherfield 0; Radcliffe Borough 0, Stalybridge Celtic 0.

DRYBROUGHS NORTHERN LEAGUE: Bishop Auckland 3, Peterlee 0; Whitby 2, Consett 1; Billingham 2, Horden 1; Chester-le-Street 0, Crook 4; Shildon 2, Tow Law 2; Ferryhill 1, Spennymoor 4.

RUGBY UNION

B INTERNATIONAL: England 21, Italy 9. CLUB MATCHES: Aberavon 25, Ebbw Vale 18; Bristol 70, Exeter 0; Clifton 12, Bath 11; Cross Keys 18, Neath 29; Llanelli 37, Maesteg 9; Newport 12, Pontypool 10; Tredgar 32, Penarth 4; Glamorgan Wand 15, Bridgend 14.

SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST MERIT TABLE: Plymouth Albion 6, Camborne 7.

RUGBY LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION: Halifax 8, Hull Kingston Rovers 35; Hull 24, Bradford Northern 18; Leigh 24, Barrow 10; St Helens 68, Hunslet 7; Workington Town 18, Widnes 36.

SECOND DIVISION: Carlisle 10, Fulham 14; Sheffield Eagles 34, Keighley 15; Swinton 44, Rochdale Hornets 8. Postponed: Wakefield v Bridgend.

FOR THE RECORD

BOXING

PRESTON: George Wimpey ABA National championships, semi-finals: Light flyweight: M Cardwell bt P Rowlands, pts; M Epton bt A Doherty, pts. Fly: P Carson bt M Smith, third; L Williams bt J Pardoe, pts. Bantam: D Lynch bt P Stephens, pts; S Murphy bt D Hodd, pts. Feather: J Davison bt J Lays, ko second; F Harvard bt C McMillan, pts. Light: C Crook bt J Bennie, second; E McAuley bt R Smyth, third. Light welter: M Elliott bt J Samuels, pts; I Murtagh bt K Black, second. Welter: T Kershaw bt K Creighton, pts; E McDonald bt B Teague, pts. Light middle: R Douglas bt A Mullen, pts; G Phillips bt N Piper, pts. Middle: D Cronin bt J Mellish, pts; A McCulloch bt D McCarthy, pts. Light heavy: J Beckles bt S Williams, second; B Pullen bt M Lee, pts. Heavy: R Parnes bt J Farrugia, third; R Hylton bt D Young, first. Super heavy: G Williamson bt A Cook, second: N Rawlings bt J Love, w/o.

FOOTBALL

ARGENTINE CUP: Semi-final: River Plate 0, Velez Sarsfield 3. Velez Sarsfield meet Argentinos Juniors in final).

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Bristol Rovers 1, Birmingham City 0; Swindon 0, Watford 2.

SOUTH-EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Arsenal 0, Orient 1; Fulham 6, Gillingham 2.

INTERNATIONALS: Colombia 2, Paraguay 0 (in Pereira); East Germany 1, Norway 0 (in East Berlin).

BELGIAN: Standard Liege 3, Lokeren 3; Racing Jet 0, Waterschei 0; Ghent 2, Saint-Nicholas 0; Seraing 2, FC Bruges 2; Kortrijk 2, Liege 2; Antwerp 3, Beerschot 1; Lierse 0, Waregem 1; CS Bruges 1, KV Mecheien 0; Beveren 0, Anderlecht 2. Leading positions: 1, Anderlecht, 50pts; 2, Waregem 40; 3, FC Bruges 38.

YUGOSLAV: Rijeka 1, Vojvodina Novi Sad 0; Sutjeska Niksic 3, Dinamo Vinkovci 0; Red Star Belgrade 2, Sloboda Tuzla 0; Vardar Skopje 3, Zeljeznicar 2; Iskra Bugojno 0, Dinamo Zagreb 1; Velez Mostar 1, Hajduk Split 1; Osijek 2, Pristina 1; Sarajevo 3, Partizan Belgrade 1; Radnicki Nis 1, Buducnost Titograd 0. Leading positions; 1, Sarajevo 34pts; 2, Hajduk Split 32; 3, Zeljeznicar 28.

SPANISH CUP: Quarter-finals, first legs: Sporting Gijon 1, Atletico Madrid 2; Castellon 0, Real Zaragoza 1; Real Betis 3, Barcelona 1; Athletic Bilbao 2, Real Sociedad 0.

SPANISH LEAGUE CUP: First round, second legs: Tarragona 4 Sevilla 1 (agg 0-5); Espanol 1, Tudelano 1 (agg 5-1); Osasuna 2, Malaga 2 (agg 2-3); Hercules 1, Real Murcia 2 (agg 1-0).

EUROPEAN UNDER 21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Italy 5, Luxembourg 1.

TOUR MATCH: Peru 2, Colo Colo (Chile) 0.

ICE HOCKEY

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Group A (Pregive): Czechoslovakia 5, Finland 0; Canada 9, East Germany 1; Canada 5, West Germany 0.

USSR 5, Finland 1; US 4, Sweden 3.

SPEEDWAY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Wimbledon 55 Mildenhall 23.

BASEBALL

UNITED STATES: American League (

David Miller's conclusions about the system

East Germany faces balancing act

Although there is a dichotomy in the principles behind East Germany's outstanding sporting success, the authorities present the two streams of thinking as a single, merged philosophy, so that it is difficult for the foreigner to determine which is the stronger influence. Neither can be denied its validity.

What the East Germans have somehow managed to do is to produce a high level of individual self determination within the state's ideological monopoly. Although a machine gun patrolled, electrified no-mans-land was necessary to halt the exodus of, predominantly, professional and business acumen to the attractions of Western wealth and political freedom, there exists a wider acknowledgment, in academic discussion with East German administrators, of the principles of the bourgeois, capitalist world than is to be found in the Soviet Union, Bulgaria or Socialist Asia.

Norbert Rogalski, who as Deputy Director of Education at Leipzig college has an inevitably strong Socialist vein in his work, states the motives of the college founded in 1950: "Development of the college in conjunction with a healthy life was the first priority. Proceeding from Marxism, the only method to develop thewhole human being is to unite teaching, polytechnic training and gymnastics. Under such conditions, working class power can be put into practice. Sport is not a deliberate national face. We try to follow the traditional bourgeois line, 'a healthy mind in a healthy body', to enable workers to have fun, and to be ready for armed struggle."

Yet two influential factors preceded any post-war introduction of a bureaucratic sports programme. The Germans were historically more than the British, Scandinavians and others, spontaneous health freaks; and in 1945, with the nation brought up to believe it was the Master Race now lying in ruins, with no money and little food, the only immediately available recreation was the pursuit of fitness.

If there was nothing else for the people to do at that time, it has to be said that the authorities have subsequently utilized the national thirst for sport to make the end point of achievement the starting point in the ideological equasion: Sporting Brotherhood Peace. Thus a hobby becomes doubly virtuous almost to the point of being puritanical. In a country denied materialist indulgence and overseas travel, sport is an opium: whether by individual choice or party acclaim. The programme of objectives for 1985 of the Robotron enterprise club in Zella Mehlis was touchingly sincere, but on a par with the Boy Scouts: eight new members, 1,200 hours voluntary work, for the men's tennis team not to get relegated, etc.

There is reason to believe Klaus Huhn, veteran sports correspondent and administrator, when he says, discussing whether International sport is a chosen public front: "we discovered the effect *after* the effort. Other countries, including those in the West, subsequently tried to follow us, and spent millions of dollars to get nationalist media coverage." However, Klaus Eichler, deputy chairman of the Sports Ministry (DTSB) admits: "We don't overlook that good results abroad stimulate people back home. Great performances will be seen in connexion with the social system.

"Government aims can only work if they are put into effect in everyday life. All talents are promoted for the benefit of the individual *and* society (my italics). The GDR has to defend its recognition in the stadiums of the world. Human ability is unlimited: we are prepared to compete honorably in the future, and we think it possible that our development will continue, without overlooking that elsewhere enormous improvement is being made."

Social ideology is heavily evident. The fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism is the subject with the fourth highest number of classes among 16 disciplines at Leipzig College. On the other hand, with the absence of class division, it is easy for the superstars of the Olympics, such as Marita Koch, to be inspirational figureheads who are daily accessible to ordinary people in their home town. That is something the West should envy.

There is, too, a follow-through of the value placed on sporting achievement with a significant number of prominent sportsmen/women taking up positions in local government. This, of course, is more possible than in the Capitalist world because a higher proportion of competitors have advanced education. Undoubtedly, the administration promotes sports stars to governmental positions in order further to project the importance of sport, and to have civil officials who have the advantage of being well known. The identity of the Olympic movement with peace is the perfect ideological socialist flag, and can be found quoted ad nauseum by dutiful competitors in the DTSB official magazine until it becomes as tedious as Carl Lewis giving thanks to God.

Eichler denies that the increasing material prosperity will be counter productive to sporting achievement, of that it will divert people from their present preoccupation with fitness. He claims that social prosperity will be sporting success (though of course there is in job appointment). The proof remains to be seen.

East German football would seem to disprove Eichler's argument: no athletes are more spoiled than their footballers, yet the consistent failure of national and club teams, in comparison with other sports, is conspicuous and frustrating, with the exception of the 1974 World Cup, when they defeated West Germany and the 1976 Olympic Games which they won.

There must be a risk that increased individual prosperity will reduce the incentive for sports excellence, which at present remains the simplest and most available means for rising above the herd, for gaining opportunity for foreign travel and for acquiring conventional prestige. The East Germans are ultimately as prone as any race to the imponderables of self motivation: there could be a downward swing in the phenomenon of collective national projection through sport.

The East Germans are remarkably thrifty. The average savings of the entire population is £2,000 per head; if there were a spending spree the shops would be stripped. If, and when, it becomes possible to buy a Peugeot instead of a Wartburg, how will that affect sporting incentive?

Katarina Witt, the figure-skating gold medallist, when on holiday with some cyclists in Cuba, memorably said when surprise was expressed at her being out at a nightclub: "We are not horses".

Yet I think there is rationality among the East Germans which will make them adapt to change internal and external. Eichler has stated that they intend to compete in South Korea in 1988 despite political disparities. During our discussions, he admitted that the Communists did not overlook the necessity for the IOC to make concessions in Law 26 to the professionals of Capitalist countries so as to balance the standards with the State-sponsored competitors of Socialist countries.

He addded: "The misuse of commercial aspects of sport is a serious danger. There are characteristics which are not acceptable to us, some athletes making millions by their performance. Famous (American) boxers can buy a hotel while others starve. You will not find either case here. There must be some compromise between, say, Evelyn Ashford and Marlies Gohr racing each other and one receiving allegedly 25,000 dollars and the other receiving 10 dollars. Now the IOC want to change Law 27 on age, to prohibit ice hockey and football players over 23, which means that a footballer here could be not ready at 20 and too old at 24. We make great efforts as a country to increase the willingness of young people to be dedicated".

The one area where it is impossible definitely to analyze their sport is in the use of drugs. When, coached within a state sports system, a shot-putter such as Ilona Slupianek is found positive, it is reasonable to assume there are others. The abuse of drug stimulants is of course categorically officially condemned by men such as Eichler – "better training and coaching will always succeed" – and by Professor Klaus Gottschalk, Vice President of sports medicine. He says: "there are other means of stimulant which can be used on a natural basis, such as nutrition, vitamins, altitude. We do nothing against the dignity of the human. Athletes are prohibited from taking medicine without a doctor's approval. You have to be patient in the development of a child to become an Olympic champion. Medical care is a long-term process. The child must not be put under a strain which its system cannot withstand."

An interpretation of those comments could be that East Germany's medical researchers are dramatically ahead of the world, not in stimulants but in legal areas which remain secret. They themselves invested in an IOC-accredited drug control centre at Kreischa, and for eight years have had an anti-doping laboratory following their major cycle road race, with no positive tests.

While I would choose to believe by logical deduction, that the miracle machine is no more immune to illegal drug experiment than any other country, it is also probable that the East Germans have extensive, superior medical knowledge especially with women and the physiologically advantageous uses of the contraceptive pill, elsewhere little explored. Leipzig College's 450 doctors will not have been idle.



Katarina Witt, figure skating gold medal winner, surprised at reaction to night club visit

RACING: CECIL EXPECTS FURTHER IMPROVEMENT FROM NELL GWYN WINNER

Promise of more from Oh So Sharp

By Michael Seely

Oh so Sharp is top quoted at 7-4 with Ladbrokes for the 1,000 Guineas after a game of high-class victory over Bella Colora and Helen Street in the Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket yesterday. Henry Cecil was delighted with this performance as the five times champion trainer attempts to win the first of the fillies' classics for the third time.

"Don't think that she was doing anything in front, she wasn't", said the trainer, "she's always capable of pulling out more and she'll be alright on the day." Steve Cauthen confirmed Cecil's opinion by adding, "Oh So Sharp is very lazy. She does absolutely nothing in front."

The champion jockey took the 13-8 on favourite to the front at the Bushes. Oh So Sharp was immediately challenged by Bella Colora. Helen Street was starting to stay on under pressure and Que Sympatica was also attempting to launch an attack. Bella Colora never gave up trying, but was a length behind at the post with Helen Street two and a half lengths away in third place.

Cecil is right to be more than satisfied with Sheikh Mohammed's unbeaten filly by Kris, but logic dictates that her current odds are a trifle cramped. Michael Stoute is convinced that Bella Colora will be all the better with another fortnight's sunshine on her back. Helen Street will also be more at home over an mile than yesterday's seven furlongs. There is also the result of this afternoon's Fred Darling Stakes to be considered.

"I was pleased with Bella Colora" said Stoute. "She is only just starting to come to herself." However, the best value in the classic must surely be represented by the 7-1 that is obtainable about Dafayna, the same trainer's winner of last Saturday's 1,000 Guineas trial at Salisbury. "Dafayna has taken her race well and has'nt lost too much weight," he said.

With the conclusion of the Craven meeting Stoute already looks to be in a dominant position as far as the classics are concerned. Shadeed remains favourite for the 2,000 Guineas and the Derby. Miller's Mate also showed himself to be a lively outsider for the blue riband of the turf when capturing the Wood Ditton Stakes on Wednesday.

Yesterday Les Arcs showed himself to be a colt of high potential when Walter Swinburn rode Bob McCreery's half brother to Electric to a silk-smooth victory over Esquire and Slip Anchor in the Gerry Feilden Stakes. 25-1 is the general price on offer for the Derby winner or second with any other; £7.20. CSF: £406.66. TRICAST: £12,930.84. Placepot: £14.30.



Well done: Cecil congratulates Oh So Sharp after the Nell Gwyn Stakes

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Stoute and Swinburn went on to complete a double when Dieghyphard galloped home to a convincing victory in the Rowley Maiden Stakes. "The colt was bought at the Breeze-Up sales in Florida in 1984," explained the trainer. "but due to the ban on the import and export of horses from the United States at that time we weren't able to bring him over until September."

Cecil and Cauthen also had two winners and Abha had initiated the first leg of their double when sprinting home to a convincing victory over Show Home in the opening Granby Stakes. "This is a useful fully and Prince Faisal is one of my best owners," said the trainer.

MORE RACING Page 30

The dinner dance at Tattersalls on Wednesday night raised over £40,000 for the British Heart Foundation and the race day in aid of the same charity is to be held at Newmarket on Saturday, June 29.

Newmarket results

Going: good

2.0 GRANBY STAKES (3-y-o: £2,743: 5f)

ABHA b f by Thatching – Hardware (Prince Faisal) 8-10 ..... S Cauthen (5-4 fav) 1
Show Home ch f by Music Boy – X Data (T Twiggen) 8-13 ..... M Miller (4-1) 2
Pacific Gold ch c by Owen Dudley – Orange Sensation (R Tikkoo) 8-11 ..... L Piggott (9-4) 3

Also Ran: 8 Blubelle (4th), 25 Indian Flower (5th). 5 ran. 2½l, 4l, hd, 1½l. H Cecil at Newmarket.
TOTE: Win: £2.00. Places: £1.10, £2.60. DF: £4.50. CSF: £6.15. Imm, 01.44sec.

2.35 TOM CAXTON HOMEBREW HANDICAP APPRENTICE CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND II £2,824: 1m 4f)

CLANRALLIER b g by Captain James – Mary Campbell (R Sangster) 5-8-3 E Guest (7-1) 1
Marooned ch c by MR Reef – Short Rations (J Greetham) 4-8-0 ..... K Bradshaw (7-2 fav) 2
Sharp Soup b g by Bustino – Photo Finish (R Greenwood) 4-7-12 ..... R Lines (10-1) 3

Also Ran: 7 Arrow Beak, Ridgefield (6th), True Heritage, 8 Empress Corina, 10 Mr Music Man, 12 Going Going, 14 Axios, 16 Bernina, 20 Art Edict (5th), 25 Clear Bust & Fen Tiger (4th), 33 Wang Fehoong. 15 ran. NR: Old Hubert, Bellagio. Nk, 2l, 4l, ¾l, hd, J W Watts at Richmond.
TOTE: Win: £5.70. Places: £1.70, £2.20, £2.20. DF: £16.10. CSF: £33.38. Tricast: £241.61. 2mins. 38.53sec.

3.10 NELL GWYN STAKES Group III (3-y-o fillies: £12,233. 7f)

OH SO SHARP ch f by Kris–Oh So Fair (Sheikh Mohammed) 8-10 ..... S Cauthen (8-13 fav) 1
Bella Colora b f by Bellypha–Reprocolor (Helen Springfield Ltd) 8-10 W R Swinburn (7-1) 2
Helen Street b f by Troy–Wasaway (Sir M Sobell) 8-10 ..... W Carson (5-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 11-2 Que Sympatica (5th), 25 Charge Along, Cherry Ridge (4th), 40 Faraway Grey (6th), Happy Hannah. 8 ran. ¾l, 2½l, 1½l nk. H Cecil at Newmarket.

TOTE: Win: £1.60. Places: £1.00, £2.20, £2.30. DF: £4.30. CSF: £5.73. 1min 2.19sec.

3.40 GERRY FEILDEN STAKES (4-y-o: £7,700: 1m 1f)

LES ARCS b c by Top Ville–Christiana (R McCreery) 8-8 ..... W R Swinburn (2-1 fav) 1
Esquire ch c by High Line–Monroe (K Abdulla) 8-8 ..... M Hills (12-1) 2
Slip Anchor b c by Shirley Heights–Sayarona (Lord H de Walden) 9-1 ..... Paul Eddery (5-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 6 Assemblyman (6th), 7 Vertige (4th), 9 Downing Street, Gay Captain (5th), 12 Ice Attack, 16 Tabardar. 9 ran. 1 ½l, nk, 1 ½l, 3l, 2l. M Stoute at Newmarket.

TOTE: Win: £2.90. Places: £1.50, £3.60, £1.90. DF: £46.80. CSF: £24.03. 1min 56.42sec.

4.10 LADBROKES BOLDBOY SPRINT HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,863: 6f)

KESSERTSKY b c King's Bishop – Exclusive (S Hall) 9-7 ..... S Cauthen (14-1) 1
Jasmood Avril ch f Music Boy – Green Chartreuse (M Browne) 8-12 ..G Baxter (9-2) 2
Our Jock br c Daring March – Sweet Jane (Lord McAlpine) 8-6 ..... G Starkey (4-1) 3

Also Ran: 15-8 fav Packitts Well, 10 Rain In Venice (6th), 11 Midnight Gun, 14 Eddie Zip (5th), 15 Coincidental (4th), 20 Steady Eddie, Sussangus, Grange Farm Girl. 11 ran. Sh hd, Sh hd, nk, 2½l, 1½l. R W Armstrong at Newmarket.

TOTE: Win: £25.80. Places: £4.80, £1.70, £1.60. DF: £175.00. CSF: £73.63. Tricast: £273.36. 1 min 15.72 sec

4.40 ROWLEY MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o. colts & geldings. £3,169: 7f)

DIAGLYPHARD b c Lyphard – Jump Seat (J Johnson) 9-0 ..... W R Swinburn (8-1) 1
Field Hazel ch c Crofter – Audrey Joan (R Sangster) 9-0 ..... M Hills (25-1) 2
Kilimanjaro Bob b g Alncan Sky – Godwyn (J Crisp) 9-0 ..... T Ives (25-1) 3

Also Ran: 5-2 fav Perrasi (6th), 4 Oropya, 9-2 Power Plan, 12 Line of Fire, Scott Head, 14 Abu Seed, Commander Robert, 20 Loving Claim, Pharaon's Hawk (5th), 25 Nicorridge (4th), Piccadilly, 33 Bold Pillager, Eastern Mariner, Hursley, Kuduma, Pamela Heaney, Sage Cook. 20 ran. NR: New Barnet. 1½l, 3l, hd, 3l, 4l. M Stoute at Newmarket.
TOTE: Win: £12.40. Places: £3.90, £6.00, £6.00. DF: £238.30. CSF: £208.11. 1 min 27.90 sec.
JACKPOT: Not won. PLACEPOT: £390.65.

Chepstow

Going: soft

2.15 (1m 2f) 1, PETRADIA (P Robinson, 8-13 fav); 2, Lady Killare (M Rimmer, 4-1); 3, Bay Gee (R Fox, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Lady Septima (4th), 12 Marcellina (5th), 16 Loves A Lady (6th), 25 Lady Coombe. 11 ran. 1 ½l, 2, hd, 4l. C Britain at Newmarket. TOTE: £1.70; £1.40, £2.40. DF: £3.50. CSF: £4.84.

2.45 (5f) 1, FOUNDRY ARTIST (I Johnson, 16-1); 2, Stockbroker (N Adams, 33-1); 3, Rebecca Sharpe (5) (S Whitworth, 4-5 fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Sunset Ridge (6th), 8 Common Farm, 9 Calling, 14 Sergo. No Evil. 18 Bedtime Tears (5th), 25 Up To Uncle, 50 Diamond Sky (4th), Tudor Clipper. 11 ran. 2l, ½l, ¾l, 1 ½l, hd. C Nelson at Lambourn. TOTE: £18.50; £3.50, £3.20, £1.10. DF: £107.50. CSF: £351.28.

3.15 (1m 4f) 1, PERSIAN KNIGHT (B Unsacke, 6-4 fav); 2, Moss Empire (R Perham, 3-1); 3, Barnes Star (C Booth, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Smokey Gem, 7 Moragal (4th), 5 ran 4l, 3l, sh hd, 10l. W Musson at Newmarket. Tote: £2.80; £1.10, £1.10. DF: £2.60. CSF: £5.92. Moragal finished third but after a stewards' inquiry was placed fourth.

3.45 (6f) 1, AIR COMMAND (A Shoults, 11-4 fav); 2, Pierscourt (B Rouse, 14-1); 3, Jack Tar (S Whitworth, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 John Patrick, 8 Numismatist (4th), 10 My Son My Son, 12 Bold Realm (5th), Kathred, Mannemsar, 14 Mel's Choice, 16 Caliph (6th), 40 Derry River, Elmdon. 13 ran. 1l, hd, ¾l, 2l, 1½l. Mrs G Revelay at Saltburn-by-the-Sea. TOTE: £3.60; £1.80, £2.50, £11.00. DF: £31.00. CSF: £38.52. Tricast: £426.91.

4.15 (1m 2f) 1, GRACE NOTE (J Matthias 11–8 fav); 2, Impressive Reward (Gay Kelleway 7–4); 3, Glas Y Dorlan (R Fox 15–2). ALSO RAN: 12 Sun Street (5th), 14 Kawsah Maid (4th), 33 Chiaffa (6th), 40 Highdale. 7 ran. 2½l, ¾l, 3l, sh hd, 12. I Balding at Kingsclere. TOTE: £3.30; £1.90, £1.50. DF: £2.50. CSF: £3.85.

4.45 (7f) 1, BRANKSOME TOWERS (A Mackay 33–1); 2, Comeragh (B Rouse 14–1); 3, Sunsilla Pal (N Carlisle 33–1); 4, Penang's Niece (S Whitworth 4–1 fav). ALSO RAN: 9–2 Rapid Actin, 13–2 Burlington Lad, 12 Formido (5th), 14 Bundaburg, Fan Club, Geuhar, Northern Talk, Paradise Island, 16 Run Riot, Sidoh, 25 Tar's Hill, When I Dream, 33 Mennes (6th), Make Me Happy, Pallatine, Arrogance, Eighth Wonder, Understanes. 22 ran. Sh hd, 3l, 1l, 2l, 2l. M Bolsley at Ludlow. TOTE: £21.00. PLACES: £4.10, £5.40, £13.70. £2.40. DF: £4.10. CSF: £4.19. Tricast: £2,480.66.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Third division
Swansea v Doncaster

Fourth division
Colchester v Rochdale
Halifax v Crewe
Scunthorpe v Hartlepool
Southend v Wrexham

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield Wednesday v Liverpool (7.00). Second division: Burnley v Wigan (7.00).
EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Bury v Sudbury
SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Newry Town v Portadown (6.30)
SOUTH WEST COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Sussex FA v Army FA (at Lancing FC).

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Bath v Llanelli (7.15); Ebbw Vale v Pontypridd (7.0). Newbridge v Nottingham (7.15). Pontypool v Coventry
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Wales B v Spain B (at Bridgend, 6.00).

RUGBY LEAGUE

First division: Hull Kingston Rovers v Bradford North; Wigan v Hull (6.00); Workington Town v St Helens (6.30).

OTHER SPORT

CYCLING: Stellak International race; Seventh stage (Burton-upon-Trent to Sandwell, 9.30am start).
FENCING: RAF Spring Series Championships (RAF Cosford).
GOLF: Father & Son Foursomes (West Hill GC, Brookwood, Nr Woking)
TENNIS: Anglian Windows tournament (Ridware); BHS tournament (Cumberland club, Kempshead).
RACKETS: Celestion Open Singles (Queens Club).
SNOOKER: Embassy world professional championship (Crucible Theatre, Sheffield).
SQUASH RACKETS: Davies & Tate British Open championships (Wembley Conference Centre); Mid West Bank U19 Home Internationals (Hadow SRC).
TABLE TENNIS: Inter-Service Championships (RAF Stanmore Park).
HORSE TRIALS: Badminton.
SPEEDWAY: League Cup: Oxford v Mildenhall (7.45). National League: Hackney v Exeter; Weymere Port v Scunthorpe. World Championship qualifying rounds: Peterborough, Edinburgh (7.15); Knock-out Cup: Glasgow v Birmingham.

Troubled two of a kind

Non league football
By Paul Newman

Yeovil Town and Worcester City, two of the Gola League's best supported clubs, are in serious danger of being relegated at the end of the season. Yeovil, who lost their first nine games and have been in the bottom two all season, already seem doomed. Worcester, who have four games left, will avoid relegation only if other sides at the bottom of the table fail to take advantage of their games in hand.

Both clubs have suffered from recent managerial upheavals. When Gerry Gow, the former Bristol City and Manchester City midfield player, took over at Yeovil in September, he became the Somerset's club fifth manager in little more than a year.

Gow has been unable to halt a slide which began three years ago, for at the end of the last two seasons Yeovil have been saved from relegation only because no Servowarm Isthmian League club took up the option of promotion. Considering their plight, it is remarkable that Yeovil's attendances this season have averaged more than 1,200.

Worcester, whose average gate is not much less than Yeovil's, have struggled ever since Nobby Clark's nine-year reign as manager ended with his dismissal last year. Bobby Shinton, his successor, lasted only 10 months before he was replaced in February by George Armstrong, the former Arsenal player. Worcester are likely to stay up only if Barnet have a bad run in their last eight games.

The bottom three clubs seem certain to be relegated this season as there are applicants for promotion from all three "feeder" leagues. Burton Albion, Macclesfield Town, Stafford Rangers, and Witton Albion have applied from the Northern Premier league, Chelmsford City, Cheltenham Town, Crawley Town, Folkestone Town, Kings Lynn, Shepshed Charterhouse, Welling United, and Willenhall Town from the Southern League, and Worthing and Wycombe Wanderers from the Servowarm Isthmian League.

Worthing had been clear favourites to win the Isthmian nomination, but Wycombe have mounted a strong challenge in the second half of the season. The Buckinghamshire club won the league championship two years ago, but on that occasion decided not to apply for promotion.

GOLA LEAGUE
bottom positions

	P	Hw	Aw	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boston	36	8	5	10	13	55	54	41
Runcorn	38	5	8	13	14	42	44	41
Weymouth	37	11	2	11	13	53	58	39
Dagenham	36	7	5	5	19	51	76	35
Worcester	36	6	5	7	18	46	61	37
Barnet	34	6	4	9	15	42	50	33
Gateshead	37	5	2	10	20	44	75	29
Yeovil	36	4	2	9	21	41	76	23

Not including last night's Boston v Yeovil result.

School treat

Halifax Town, with fourth division crowds around 1,000, are offering local schoolchildren free admission for their last four home games of the season, beginning with a visit from Crewe tonight. Their manager, Mick Jones, who circularized all headmasters in the district, said: "So far the response has been great."

Sweet lure of team selection

By Pat Butcher

The lure for runners in the Mars London Marathon on Sunday is not simply the £200,000 prize money, and, presumably all the chocolate they can eat; there is also the assurance that victory will ensure selection to next year's European Championship or Commonwealth Games.

Both Mike Gratton, who won London in 1983, and Charlie Spedding, last year's winner, who went on to finish third in the Olympic Games, have expressed a preference for a place in the England team for the Commonwealth Games. Steve Jones, holder of the world's best time, and Sarah Rowell would choose the European Championships, although Jones must already be assured of a Commonwealth place for Wales if he wants one.

Since the two marathon races next year, the Commonwealth in July in Edinburgh, and the European in Stuttgart in August, are so close together, it would be unwise to attempt both – although Kjell-Erik Stahl, the 38-year-old Swede who competes on Sunday and has run one marathon per month for the last four years with a high percentage of sub-2hr 20min performances, is surviving proof to the contrary.

Gratton prefers the Commonwealth, since he was third in the last Games in Christchurch in 1982. He also feels that he could do better in Edinburgh, which is what Spedding said of himself yesterday.

FOOTBALL: FA CUP FINAL IS RICH IN PROMISE AS A FINALE

Shadow stretches across Channel

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Whatever happens inside the national stadium on May 18, the events that took place on the threshhold to Wembley for once deserved a prominent place in the FA Cup's history book. The semi-finals, spread across five and a half hours in three different stadia and in front of over 150,000 spectators, will long be remembered for the drama and the 10 goals enclosed within them.

Semi-finals are traditionally dour affairs, displays of steel and character, rather than skill and quality, but the games at Villa Park and Goodison Park last Saturday and at Maine Road on Wednesday rose far above the ordinary. Although Luton Town, the outsiders, and Liverpool, the favourites, may not care to recall them in future, they both failed by the narrowest margin.

Since their conquerors, Everton and Manchester United respectively, can justifiably claim to be the most consistent, successful and attractive sides in the country, the final promises to produce a rich and appropriate end to the domestic season. Yet over that glorious prospect hangs a shadow that stretches across the Channel to Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

Everton aim to be there on May 15, a mere 72 hours before the English showpiece. Should they dismiss Bayern Munich as expected on Wednesday, they will be within sight of their first European trophy, the Cup Winners' Cup. If they triumph, they will regard the visit as ideal preparation. If not, there will be little time to repair their damaged belief.

United will be comparatively relaxed over the next month. They are already almost assured of their one remaining target, qualification for Europe next season. They will enter either the Cup Winners' Cup, even if they lose at Wembley if Everton go into the European Cup as the English champions, or the UEFA Cup, unless their form suffers a sudden and prolonged relapse.

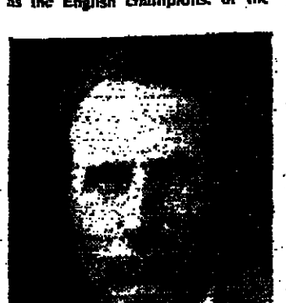
There are no signs to suggest that it will. Although a little finger of accusation might be pointed at Albiston (for not cutting out Dalglish's cross at the end of the first game against Liverpool and Nicol's before the interval in the second), their contribution individually and collectively was of the highest calibre.

Robson, the scorer of United's magnificent equaliser on Wednesday, is all but restored to full fitness. Hughes, the scorer of their spectacular winner, is on the verge of joining his club captain in the world class. Olsen, relishing the warmer climate and softer conditions, and Strachan are not far below it either.

Whiteside, in his youthful exuberance, stretches the limits of legitimate aggression, but there can be no doubting his effectiveness in the vacancy left by Moses. With the more elderly Gidman and Stapleton enjoying the dusk of their careers, Ron Atkinson is satisfied with the current pattern and spirit of his team.

He believes that if Hogg and the impressive McGrath, as well as Moran, had not been ruled out so often through injury, United would now be leaning heavily on the shoulders of Everton. It may be too late to challenge them for the main honour of the season, but they have at least earned the right to challenge them on the final day.

● The receipts for the FA Cup semi-final between Manchester United and Liverpool, at Maine Road on Wednesday night were £274,281, a record for a replay. Total receipts for the tie amounted to £589,361, also a record and the final will draw more than £1 million for the first time.



Northampton Town, the bottom club of the Canon League, parted company yesterday with their team manager, Tony Barton (above), after less than 10 months "by mutual consent". When Aston Villa dismissed Barton, who had steered them to the European Cup in 1982, he joined Northampton as manager almost at once but he suffered a heart attack in August last year and was away from the job for three months.

Northampton will pay up Barton's contract. The parting was amicable but it is believed that Barton was unhappy about strict financial restrictions for next season.

Chance for United

The hundredth Scottish Cup final on May 18 will be between Dundee United and Celtic. In Wednesday evening's semi-final replays, Dundee United beat Aberdeen 2-1 at Tynecastle and Celtic beat Motherwell 3-0 at Hampden Park.

The Scottish Cup is the only domestic honour which United have not won. Goals from Sturrock and Beedie have now given them a chance to make history. Angus scored Aberdeen's consolation goal in a match marred by the sending-off of two players – Cooper, of Aberdeen, and United's Dodd.

The Celtic manager, David Hay, was pleased by his club's burst of three goals in the last 17 minutes, which beat Motherwell. The 0-0 draw on Saturday, in the clubs' first match, had been described by Hay as a "scandalous" performance. Aitken and Johnston (two) were Celtic's scorers.

● Southend United supporters who renew their season tickets before May 31 at current price before next season's increase will also get a free digital quartz watch.

MARATHON

Shadow stretches across Channel

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

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THIRSK

GOING: good to soft
Draw advantage: 5f-6f, high numbers best; 7f-1m, low.

2.0 EBF BRITON MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £2,882: 5f) (17 runners)

1	3	AMPLIFY M Britain 9-0	B Coogan	8
2	3	CUMBRIAN DANCER M H Easterby 9-0	M Birch	3
3		DRAGON SLAYER M W Easterby 9-0	M Hindley 5	11
4		DRAGOUS HOUR F Carr 9-0	J Carr 7	15
5		HALLGATE Miss S Hall 9-0	K Hodgson	14
10		TRY HARDER J Fitzgerald 9-0	G Oldroyd	6
11		VENDREDI TREIZE W Pearce 9-0	D Nicholls	10
12	2	VILTASH J Etherington 9-0	M Wood	12
13	2	CAST PARTY J W Watts 8-11	B Thomson	13
14		DASHAKI GOLD C Spares 8-11	D Gibson	4
15	0	IMPERIAL SUNRISE M W Easterby 8-11	G Duffield	2
16	0	JESSIE ELLIS T Barron 8-11	S Webster	16
18		MISS CEE TEE E Alston 8-11	G Baxter	17
19		PALACE VIEW N Tinkler 8-11	T Ives	7
20		RATTEN ROW M W Easterby 8-11	J Beasdale	1
21	00	SANDY FURNISS J Glover 8-11	D McKeown	9
22		SKERNE STREAM M Camacho 8-11	N Connorton	5

1984: Coincidental 9-4 S Parks (9-4 fav) M Lambert 15 ran
2 Viltash, 4 Cast Party, 9-2 Amplify, 6 Cumbrian Dancer, 10 Dragon Slayer. 14 Try Harder. 16 others.

2.30 KNAYTON SELLING STAKES (Div I: £1,086: 6f) (19)

2	3010	COOL ENOUGH R Simpson 4-9-13	S Whitworth 3	8
4	0000-	MONSWART D Chapman 4-9-13	D Nicholls	3
13	000-	TOY BOY J Wilson 4-9-7		1
17		SHINY CHADOR D Weeden 4-9-4	Gay Kelleway 5	5
21	000-0	MALOWSKI (B) M Britain 3-9-1	B Coogan	12
23	9-100	LADY GRIM W Wharton 3-8-12	R Fox	11
24	1000-	PRETTY FACE J Berry 3-8-12	K Darley	9
25	10-23	RUN EASY (D) I Vickers 3-8-12	R Hills	17
26	200-4	CARTOON Mrs N Macauley 3-8-9	A Mackay	16
28	000-3	DEBRIS W A Stephenson 3-8-9	M Birch	19
29	00-	EL-HAR-LE-HAR W Musson 3-8-9	R Stockdale	14
35	0	YELLOW BEAR R Hollinshead 3-8-9	S Parks	2
36	000-0	AILSA PEARL G Harman 3-8-6	J Quinn 7	10
38	0200-	CLARA BOOGIE D Gandolfo 3-8-6	N Connorton	13
39	00-04	DECISION MATE R Thompson 3-8-6	L Charnock	5
41	0-004	EMMAZENDA J Parkes 3-8-6	N Day	18
44	0	KELLY'S MATCH M Naughton 3-8-6	N Howe	15
45	300-	NORTHERN REVIEW D Garraton 3-8-6	T Ives	7
48	4030-	SISTER RACINE T Fairhurst 3-8-6	M Beecroft	4

1984: Taz Shahzada 4-9-7 B Hanlam 24 ran
4 Run Easy, 5 Emmazenda, 11-2 El-Har-Le-Har, 6 Cool Enough, 8 Lady Grim, 10 Pretty Face, 12 Debris, Decision Mate, 16 others.

3.0 BIRDFORT

RACING

Al Bahathri in good heart for vital test

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

The spotlight will again be focussed on potential classic fillies at Newbury today when the principal race is the Gainsborough Stud Fred Darling Stakes. Winning this good race with Al Bahathri will be dear to the heart of Shaikh Hamdan Al-Maktoum, for the reason that it is sponsored by the stud owned by his brother, Maktoum Al Maktoum.

While I was in Newmarket earlier this week, where Al Bahathri is trained by Harry Thomson Jones, I got the impression that the Shaikh's wish may well come true. Apparently, Al Bahathri has been working a treat on the Heath recently in much the same way that she was going last summer before she won the Princess Margaret Stakes at Ascot and the Lowther Stakes at York. Her subsequent defeat in the Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket at the beginning of October can be put downto her being over the top.

Although Al Bahathri has never raced further than six furlongs, neither her trainer nor her jockey, Tony Murray, have any qualms about her being every bit as good over today's distance of 7f 60yd. A study of her pedigree supports that confidence as she is by a miler, out of a miler.

Newmarket horses appear to be generally more forward this spring than those whose quarters are in Berkshire and Wiltshire, where the gallops until recently have been so soggy so. I will not be surprised if Ever Genial, from Henry Cecil's in-form stable, poses more of a threat to my selection than the other unbeaten filly, River Spey.

On a line through Chepstow Vale, who finished two lengths behind Ever Genial in the May Hill Stakes at Doncaster, but nearly six lengths behind Al Bahathri in the Lowther, my selection does appear to have a few pounds in hand. Ian Balding also makes no secret of the fact that River Spey, who won the Rochford Thompson Stakes over today's course and distance on her only appearance last year, will be much better for the race.

No matter how Ever Genial performs, Cecil and his new stable jockey, Steve Cauthen, should not leave the course disappointed because the word from Newmarket is that Skaramanga will be hard to beat in the Spring Maiden Stakes, a race that Cecil has farmed over the years. He is my nap selection.

A half-brother to that good filly Star Pastures, by the 1978 Derby winner Shirley Heights, Skaramanga would have run as a two-year old had he not stumbled while out at exercise and ricked a joint. By the time he was sound again, the season was nearly over, so Cecil did not persevere. But my information is that Skaramanga has been working with such promise recently that his patience is about to be rewarded.

The Footman, who finished third and fourth at Ascot and Kempton last season in decent races won by Tour D'Or and Sabona, looks the pick of those with form.

Cauthen may also win the EBF Beckhampton Maiden Stakes for Fulke Johnson Houghton on Gryphon. Being by Vaguely Great out of a half-sister to Double Form, my selection has an abundance of fast blood in his veins. Nomination, from Paul Cole's nearby stable, which has already sent out two two-year-old winners this season, could turn out to be his main danger.

Popsi's Joy ran well enough



Tony Murray: confident

behind Floyd in the Queen's Prize to suggest that he will be hard to beat in the Thatcham Stakes while Empty Chest performed with similar promise at Brighton eight days ago, when he was runner-up to Castle Tweed to fan the flames of hope that he might win the *Mail on Sunday* Handicap.

Stable companions Subjective (3.30) and Color Blind (4.30) could be outstanding winners for their trainer Gavin Pritchard Gordon at Thirsk where stable jockey George Duffield will be on duty. In view of the way that she disposed of the hot favourite Zenata at Warwick on Easter Monday, Color Blind should be particularly hard to beat in the Hambleton Stakes.

Course specialists

NEWBURY

TRAINERS: H Cecil 32 winners from 100 runners, 32.0%; M Stoute 18 from 76, 23.7%; M Jarvis 10 from 50, 20.0%.
JOCKEYS: L Piggott 45 winners from 213 rides, 21.1%; B Raymond 25 from 128, 19.5%; Pat Eddery 37 from 195, 19.0%.

THIRSK

TRAINERS: J Dunlop 7 winners from 9 runners, 77.8%; H Thomson Jones 10 from 27, 37.0%; B Hobbs 8 from 28, 30.%.
JOCKEYS: G Baxter 7 winners from 26 rides, 26.9%; N Day 5 from 28, 17.9%; A Mackay 5 from 31, 16.1%.

Blinkered first time

NEWBURY: 4.0 Tame Affair.
THIRSK: 4.55 Just A Bit.

NEWBURY

BBC

[*Televised: BBC1: 2.30, 3.0, 3.30*]

GOING: good to soft

Draw advantage: 5f-1m (str), high numbers best on soft going

2.0 E B F BECKHAMPTON MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o colts & geldings: £2,077: 5f) (12 runners)

101		COMPLEAT (Food Brokers Ltd) G Lewis 9-0 — P Waldron	4
103		GORGEOUS ALGERNON (W Gredley) B Hills 9-0 — Pat Eddery	3
104		GRYPHON (Baroness H Thyssen) R Johnson Houghton 9-0 — S Cauthen	10
105		HADDON LAD (J Watson) M McCourt 9-0 — J Mercer	6
109		KINABER PARK (C Fosyth) M Vance 8-9 — C Rutter	5
110		LOCKWOOD PRINCE (Mrs J McCormack) G Hunter 9-0 — M Hills	9
111		NOMINATION (F Salman) P Cole 9-0 — T Quinn	2
112		OWL CASTLE (B Over) M Usher 9-0 — M Wigham	11
113		PITPROP (D Stefi) G Pritchard-Gordon 9-0 — W Ryan	12
114		PORO BOY (S Thumbsayeh) C N Williams 9-0 — W Higgins	7
115		ROYAL BERKS (R Richards) C Britain 9-0 — W Carson	9
116		STARALA (A J Bingley Ltd) M McCourt 9-0 — R Wernham	5

6-4 Nomnabon, 3 Gryphon, 6 Royal Berks, 8 Gorgeous Algernon, 10 Compleat, Pitprop, 12 Lockwood Prince, 14 others.

Newbury selections

By Mandarin

2.0 Gryphon. 2.30 SKARAMANGA (nap). 3.0 Al Bahathri. 3.30 Empty Chest. 4.0 Paddystown. 4.30 Popsi's Joy.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Pitprop. 2.30 Skaramanga. 3.0 Al Bahathri. 3.30 Truly Rare. 4.0 Green Spirit. 4.30 Trade Line.

Michael Seely's Selection: 3.30 Truly Rare.

2.30 SPRING MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £2,637: 1m 3f) (17)

205	9-0	CHASING THE DRAGON (Skallcots Ltd) D Ringer 9-0 — P D'Arcy	7
206		ESPANARES (R Gamm) M Blanshard 9-0 — J Reid	11
207		FORT RUPERT (L Smith) P Walwyn 9-0 — J Mercer	2
208	00-	GOLDEN PROMISE (The Queen) W Hern 9-0 — W Carson	13
209	0-	GOODMAN POINT (S Niarchos) G Harwood 9-0 — G Starkey	8
210	04-	ICKWORTH (Lord Bristol) F Durr 9-0 — P Madden	16
211		INSTITUTION (J Cohen) M Usher 9-0 — A McGlone	3
212		NOVICH (K Abdulla) J Tree 9-0 — Pat Eddery	1
213		PALACE YARD (The Queen) I Balding 9-0 — J Matthies	17
214		SECONDHILL LAD (D Curtis) M Usher 9-0 — M Wigham	12
216		SKARAMANGA (S Niarchos) H Cecil 9-0 — S Cauthen	14
217		SOL D'OR (M Machline) J Dunlop 9-0 — L Piggott	15
218	30-	SPITE AND MALICE (Miss A Whitfield) M E Francis 9-0 — Paul Eddery	6
219	43-	THE FOOTMAN (P Powell) D Elsworth 9-0 — B Rouse	9
220	00-	WHITE ROSE (Capt M Smyly) M Smyly 9-0 — W R Swinburn	5
221	2	YPSILANTIS (Capt M Lemos) C Britain 9-0 — A Lequeux	10
223	00-	SOLSTICE BELL (Mrs H Kiburn) R Voorspuy 8-11 — A Murray	14

5-2 Skaramanga, 4 Sol D'Or, 5 The Footman, 8 Goodman Point, 7 Novich, 8 Ypsilantis, 10 Golden Promise, 12 others.

FORM:GOLDEN PROMISE (9-0) 11l 6th of 24 to Over The Ocean (9-0) at Newmarket (1m, 24,898, good. Oct 18). ICKWORTH (9-0) 6½ 5th of 16 to October (9-0) at Lingfield (5f, 21,964, soft Oct 29). THE FOOTMAN (8-11) 7¼ 3rd of 8 to Tour D'Or (8-11) at Ascot (7f, £7,272, good to firm, Sep 28); previously (8-11) 3½l 4th of 12 to Sabona (8-11) at Kempton (7f, £4,799, good to firm, Sep 8) with GOODMAN POINT (8-11) 5l away 8th. WHITE ROSE (8-11) 8th of 17 to Leading Star (8-11) at Newbury (8f, £5,013, soft, Oct 27) with SPITE AND MALICE (8-11) out of first 9. YPSILANTIS (8-11) 15l 2nd of 5 to Tangognat (9-3) at Kempton (1m 3f, £2,014, heavy, Apr 12).
Selection: THE FOOTMAN.

3.0 GAINSBOROUGH STUD FRED DARLING STAKES (Group III: 3-y-o fillies: £18,200: 7f 60yd) (9)

301	01113-	AL BAHATHRI (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 9-0 — A Murray	4
302	11210-	AXE VALLEY (R Barber) P Cole 9-0 — Pat Eddery	6
305	11-	EVER GENIAL (L Freedman) H Cecil 9-0 — S Cauthen	3
306	210-	HAYATI (M Alahaidib) P Cole 9-0 — T Quinn	2
307	421000-	HI-TECH GIRL (C) (W Gredley) C Britain 9-0 — G Starkey	9
308	04211-	MERLE (J Adam) R Sheather 9-0 — R Cochrane	7
309	1-	RIVER SPEY (C,D) (P Mellon) I Balding 9-0 — P Cook	8
311	20-	SEATTLE SERENADE (Sheikh Mohammed) W Hern 9-0 — W Carson	5
313	214100-	TOP SOCIALITE (T Tek Tan) M Stoute 9-0 — W R Swinburn	1

6-4 Al Bahathri, 3 Ever Genial, 9-2 River Spey, 8 Top Socialite, 12 Seattle Serenade, 14 Hayati, 16 others.

FORM: AL BAHATHRI (8-11) 4½l 3rd to Park Appeal (8-11) with HI-TECH GIRL (8-11) 11th; previously (8-11) 4l York winner from Imperial Jade (8-11) (6f, £16,056, good to firm, Aug 22, 10 ran with HI-TECH GIRL (9-2) 5th and TOP SOCIALITE (9-2) 9th. HI-TECH GIRL (8-8) had TOP SOCIALITE (8-8) 2l back in 4th when winning the Queen Mary (5f, £16,588, good to firm, June 20, 17 ran). EVER GENIAL (8-6) beat Glide By (8-6) (1m, £16,063, good to soft, Sep 13, 7 ran. MERLE (9-1) eased near finish when beating Music Market (8-3) 1l in Leicester nursery (6f, £2,806, good, Oct 23, 15 ran). RIVER SPEY (8-5) pushed out to beat Capo Di Monte (8-8) a neck over today's course and distance (6,341, heavy, Oct 25, 7 ran).
Section: AL BAHATHRI.

3.30 MAIL ON SUNDAY THREE--YEAR--OLD SERIES (Handicap: £3,204: 1m) (13)

401	13-	HOLLOW RING (C,D) (Lord Rotherwick) W Hern 9-7 — W Carson	13
402	00401-3	STRING PLAYERS (D) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Clachanowski 9-5 — Pat Eddery	8
404	001120-	GREAT NORTHERN (A Struthers) J Dunlop 9-0 — L Piggott	12
405	12	BEAU DIAMOND (BF) (Mrs M Francis) M E Francis 8-11 — Paul Eddery	11
406	33140-	STOCK HILL LASS (Mrs M Fairbairn) M Blanshard 8-9 — J Reid	4
407	01-	TRULY RARE (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 8-6 — W R Swinburn	3
408	041-	FAIR CHARTER (L Becker) R Hannon 8-4 — R Wernham	1
410	10341-0	MAKING TRACKS (C Beck) C N Williams 7-11 — M L Thomas	10
411	0041-	HOLYPORT VICTORY (Holyport Ltd) M Usher 7-11 — J Cantor	5
412	10244-2	EMPTY CHEST (H Al-Sayari) G Pritchard-Gordon 7-11 — T Williams	9
413	3140-	NORSTOWN (Mrs A Sims) R Holder 7-11 — B Dawson	11
414	0340-	FARLEY HILL (J Horgan) R Hannon 7-10 — A McGlone	6
415	000300-0	MASTER JOHNY (Mrs M Charalambous) M E Francis 7-8 — R Still	2

2 Truly Rare, 4 Empty Chest, 5 Great Northern, 6 Hollow Ring, 8 Beau Diamond, String Player, 10 Fair Charter, 12 others.

FORM: HOLLOW RING (9-3) 10½l 3rd of 17 to Leading Star (8-11) maiden over today's course and distance (£5,013, soft, Oct 27). GREAT NORTHERN unplaced at Doncaster in November previously (9-2 3l 2nd of 15 to Braddells (8-10) here (6f h'cap, £4,426, soft, Oct 27). BEAU DIAMOND (9-6) 1½l 2nd of 14 to NASIB (9-0) at Nottingham (6f h'cap, £2,276, good, Oct 22, 19 ran). TRULY RARE (9-0) beat Dragoness (9-0) 3l at Nottingham (6f h'cap, £2,276, good, Oct 22, 11 ran). HOLYPORT VICTORY (9-0) beat Spanford Lad (8-9) 1l at Folkestone (6f mdn, £915, soft, Nov 5, 9 ran). EMPTY CHEST (8-4) ½l 2nd of 10 to Castle Tweed (9-2) at Brighton (1m h'cap, £2,890, soft, Apr 11).
Selection: EMPTY CHEST.

4.0 CHIEVELEY HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,807: 5f) (10)

501	03140-	TACHYON PARK (D) (T Lyons II) M Vance 9-7 — Pat Eddery	4
502	4001-	DORKING LAD (D) (Mrs P Brown) M Blanshard 9-2 — R Cochrane	6
503	1-	GREEN SPIRIT (D) (R Green) M Jarvis 8-11 — B Raymond	5
504	314-	WOODLAND PINES (D) (R Sangster) B Hills 8-11 — M Hills	10
505	230-122	DUCK FLIGHT (D) (BF) (R Dunsdon) J Douglas-Home 8-6 — J Reid	2
506	30-1	PADDYSTOWN (R Lambert) P Cundell 8-6 — W Carson	7
508	01-0	PERFECT TIMING (D) (R Vines) D Elsworth 8-5 — B Rouse	9
509	01243-3	TYROLLIE (D) (Lady Goldsmid) N Vigors 8-5 — S Dawson	3
510	230-322	TAME AFFAIR(D,B) (J Tremain) R Stubbs 8-4 — L Piggott	8
511	013-	PETROVICH (D) (J Horgan) R Hannon 8-4 — A McGlone	1

7-2 Green Spirit, 4 Tyrollie, 5 Duck Flight, 6 Woodland Pines, 8 Paddystown, Petrovich, 12 Tachyon Park, 14 others.

FORM: DORKING LAD (9-0) 2½l Nottingham winner from Yeti Song (9-0) (5f, £735, good, Oct 1, 7 ran). GREEN SPIRIT (8-11 beat) Quick Fan (8-11) a neck at Lingfield (5f, £981, good, Sep 18, 17 ran). WOODLAND PINES (8-12) 7¼l 4th of 6 to Shalbee (8-8) at Ascot (5f, £5,671, good to firm, Sep 28). DUCK FLIGHT (8-6) neck 2nd of 11 to Piano Man (8-11) at Salisbury (5f, £2,110 heavy, Apr 13); previously (8-4) 3l 2nd of 19 to Our Jock (9-5) at Kempton (6f, £2,775, good to soft, Apr 6) with TYROLLIE (8-6) 2l away 3rd and PERFECT TIMING (8-6) out of first 9. PERFECT TIMING (8-11) ½l Lingfield winner from Mitchsider (8-11) (5f, £769, good to soft, Oct 16, 14 ran). PADDYSTOWN (8-5) ½l Leicester winner from Main Star (9-4) (6f, £1,502, heavy, Mar 25, 10 ran).
Selection: DORKING LAD.

4.30 THATCHAM HANDICAP (£3,154: 2m) (16)

602	13240-2	POPSI'S JOY (D) (V Lawson) M Haynes 10-9-7 — P Cook	9
603	002311-	JAMESMEAD (D Allen) D Elsworth 4-9-5 — B Rouse	6
604	03300/	COCAINE (Mrs S Patterson) S Patterson 7-9-2 — J Piggott	14
605	1230/2-	SHENTON WAY (Miss W Redman) J Jenkins 5-9-1 — J Williams	8
606	34000-0	MORGANS CHOICE (C,D) (C Hill) C Hill 8-8-13 — W Carson	13
607	0111-04	ACCURACY (Miss B Swire) G Balding 4-8-12 — W Higgins	2
608	0210211-	ALDO KING (F Salman) P Cole 4-8-12 — T Quinn	15
609	110110/	FLYING OFFICER (A Sneldrake) M Pipe 8-8-12 — S Cauthen	6
610	104140-	TRADE LINE (D) (M Scott) R Sheather 4-8-11 — R Cochrane	10
613	13000/0	RIB STEEL (D) (R Rabbine) P Cundell 5-7-13 — A McGlone	11
616	4000-13	FOULAND (BF) (T Kanassaki) D Arbuthnot 4-7-11 — M Hills	7
617	040400/	GOLDEN BRIGADIER (C,B) (L Turland) J Old 7-7-9 — —	12
618	00020-0	CHEKA (I Balding) I Balding 9-7-7 — S O'Gorman	3
619	021004/	CHARLES STUART (I Pitt) R Baker 6-7-7 — N Carlisle	16
620	000344-	MISS CANNIBAL (M Braham) M Smyly 4-7-7 — M L Thomas	4
621	0/334-0	WINMARIE (B) (A Newcombe) C Hill 7-7-7 — T Williams	3

4 Jamesmead, 5 Popsi's Joy, 6 Accuracy, Also King, 8 Cocaine, 10 Flying Officer, Foilland, 12 Trade Line, 14 others.

FORM: POPSI'S JOY (8-12) 1½l 2nd of 12 to Floyd (7-11) at Kempton (2m h'cap, £4,737, good to soft, Apr 6) with ACCURACY (8-6) 6l away 4th. JAMESMEAD (8-4) beat Ace Of Spies (10-0) a neck at Newmarket (1m 4f h'cap, £2,676, good, Nov 3, 9 ran). ALDO KING (9-5) beat Ride The Skies (8-0) 6l at Radcar (2m 1f stakes, £1,604, good to soft, Oct 25, 14 ran). TRADE LINE (8-0) 15½l 8th of 14 to Skibroyer (8-3) at Newmarket (2m h'cap, £5,017, good, Oct 3) with ALDO KING (7-13) 1½l away 9th. FOULAND (8-10) 5l 3rd of 8 to Lysimachus (8-7) at Nottingham (1m 6f h'cap, £1,341, heavy, Apr 8).

MARKET RASEN

GOING: Good to soft

2.15 SPALDING NOVICE CHASE (£990: 3m) (17)

1	224	Gesta An Uisce 7-11-11 — Peter Hobbs	
2	66p	Ballyblaack 9-11-4 — Mr A Bowlby 7	
3	0al	Brad Lane 9-11-4 — Mr A Tutton	
4	p03	Bolton 10-11-4 — R Stronge	
5	0p4	Chevron Rise 7-11-4 — Dai Williams	
10	400	Cricket Wood 7-11-4 — S Keightley	
11	p24	French Lieutenant 8-11-4 — R Crank	
14	000	Mighty Rum 7-11-4 — Mr P J Dun	
15	000	Not a Bother 8-11-4 — D Fisher 4	
16	p04	Prince Helen (B) 9-11-4 — M Furlong	
17	s23	Rastasomerlaich 7-11-4 — Mr L Kirby	
19	0p0	Sit and Wait 8-11-4 — S McNeil	
20	0/p-p	Spring Champ 7-11-4 — G P Kelly	
21	200	Top Reef 7-11-4 — M Kinane	
23	0-fp	Woodlands Samuel 7-11-4 — C Mann	
25	p00	Aza Brown 8-10-13 — S J O'Neill	
26	0/e-p	Blackseal 11-10-13 —	

2 Gresta An Uisce, 7-2 Rastasomerlaich, 5 Prince Helen, 6 Mighty Rum, 8 Bolton.

2.45 SPILSBY HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,035: 3m) (17)

1	000	Mr Dunstep 7-11-12 — Mr P J Dun	
3	0p1	Celtic Cracker 7-11-11 (Sex) — J Barlow	
4	p-53	Connemore Kelliwarr 9-11-9 —	
5	002	Ronalsway 6-11-8 — Mr R J Baggan	
6	100	Willibal 5-11-5 — R Stronge	
7	0-04	Glogby 11-11-3 — M Brennan	
9	109/	Lenygon 10-10-13 — R Bellow 7	
15	780	Zipanib 7-10-4 — M Kinane	
20	141	Sharp Tor 7-10-2 (Sex) — P Tuck	
22	up0	Bonnie Sue (B) 11-10-1 — D Wildinson	
24	000	Something Special 8-10-0 —	
25	p01	WR-Tel (B) 8-10-0 (Sex) — G Martin 7	
27	1-00	Rosnell Up 6-10-0 — R Crank	
27	0p0	Princess Hercule 10-10-0 — Miss T Davis 7	
28	0-00	Lyalea Palace 5-10-0 — J A Harris	
29	0/p3	Blare 7-10-0 — J Suthern	
30	0-06	The Chosen One (B) 11-10-0 — T Heaney	

11-4 Celtic Cracker, 4 Sharp Tor, 5 Randomly, Willtot, Millin.

3.15 SLEAFORD NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £548: 2m 4f) (20)

2	002	Conscription 5-11-8 — P Blackburn 4	
3	186	Fergy Foster 5-11-8 — Mr P J Dun	
4	188	Lastyrdeck 4-11-1 — R Forsyth	
5	004	Sheridan Lad 5-11-0 — S Johnson	
8	00-0	Silkasmall 8-11-0 — P Tuck	
10	400	Cruiser 8-11-0 —	
11	0p-5	Edenlea 6-11-0 — P Dever	
12	003	Eros Desper 5-11-0 — D Dutton	
13	04f	Flemington 8-11-0 — R Rowe	
14	000	Forlice Wood 5-11-0 — M Maguire 4	
15	424	House of Lords 6-11-0 — M Dwyer	
16	8	Long Wait 6-11-0 — A Brown	
21	0f2	Slipstream Lad 6-11-0 — J A Harris	
23	0-50	Westlind Sagander 5-11-0 — C Mann	
24	p	Martell Lady 7-10-9 — Mr R Morris	
26	0	Pellonia 6-10-9 — D Fisher 4	
27	004	Mark's Choice 4-10-7 — Mr M Thompson 7	
28	pkp	New Times 4-10-7 — M Pepper	
29	0	Seyl 4-10-7 — J K Kinane	
31	p	Lights of Stalee 4-10-2 — M Furlong	

2 Lambydrock, 7-2 Barsbridge Lad, 9-2 House Of Lords, 6 Flemington, 8 Conscription.

3.45 LOUTH HANDICAP CHASE (£1,725: 2m) (5)

5	11f	The Welder 7-11-7 — R Earnshaw	
11	401	Coeur Vaillant 7-10-9 (Sex) — Mr M Thompson 7	
12	802	Fair Babu 11-10-8 — Mr L Kirby	
14	802	Tiernaree 7 10-3 — G Williams 4	
16	240	Law Venture 11-10-0 — M Bastard	

11-8 The Welder, 3 Coeur Vaillant, 4 Fair Babu, Tierence, 12 Law Venture.

4.15 SLEAFORD NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £548: 2m 4f) (19)

1	001	Bishop's Royal (B) 5-11-8 — J Hansen	
2	330	The Joestan 6-11-8 — A Webb	
3	p10	The Undergraduate 6-11-8 — K Frost 7	
4	0p0	Togg 7-11-8 — P A Charlton	
6	041	Gainsville Lad 4-11-1 — J K Kinane	
9	000	Al Saadiq 6-11-0 — M Morris	
10	04-2	Brigana 7-11-0 — J Frost	
12	0p	Indian Officer 6-11-0 — G Bradley	
13	00	Meldreds 5-11-0 — M Dwyer	
15	0-0p	Mill Bran 7-11-0 — M Brennan	
17	000	Seaside Pix 5-11-0 — Mr P J Dun	
18		Show No Mercy 6-11-0 — D Dutton 7	
18	322	Singlecote 5-11-0 — M Bastard	
21	000	Joca 4-10-10 — D Wildinson	
23	300	Mount Nugent 5-10-9 — R Earnshaw	
26	004	Bron Gwaster 4-10-7 — M Pepper	
32	0pf	Toondeer 4-10-7 — R Crank	
33	0p0	Shallacot Air 4-10-7 — Mr P Niven 7	
35	0	Gatewood 4-10-9 — Mr R J Baggan	
37		Ifiel's Beauty 4-10-9 — Miss F Yeo	
40	4	Ripton Angle 4-10-9 — Mr J Osborne	
41	0	Sister Claire 4-10-9 —	

9-4 Waddid, 3 Bordeaux Rouge, 11-2 Ripton Angle, 13-2 Cap That, 8 Sister Claire.

MARKET RASEN SELECTIONS (By Mandarin): 2.15 Gesta An Uisce, 2.45 Stargi Tor, 3.15 Lastyrdeck, 3.45 The Welder, 4.15 Togg, 4.45 Mr Foodbroker, 5.15 Bordeaux Rouge.

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1983 (SERIES) TOYOTA SUPRA Automatic, Hatchback, 6cyl, 3litre, immaculate condition, 17,000 miles, One owner, owner leaving country, £7,495. Telephone 02832 26109.

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SUBARU SUBARU SUBARU. New '85 4WD, B & H Motors, London's Main Ag

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Saab uses the sun to keep driver cool

In its early days as a carmaker Saab Sweden produced suprisingly conservative models for a group better known as a designer and manufacturer of advanced aircraft. But it was on a learning curve in an industry where one bad car can blight your image for years ahead. How well it came through its apprenticeship will be seen at the Auto Expo Motorshow in Los Angeles next month when it exhibits one of the most exciting sportscar designs for a very long time.

EV 1 (Experimental vehicle number one) will not go into production in its present form but many of its features will certainly appear on Saab cars during the next few years.

Unlike so many concept cars this is no "paper tiger". Based on the floor pan, chassis, suspension and two-litre engine of the present Saab 900 Turbo 16, it is a 2+2 sports coupe with a "targa"-type roof made entirely of glass and mounted on a steel body with extremely futuristic lines. Saab quotes a top speed of 168 mph and 0-62 mph time of 5.7 seconds.

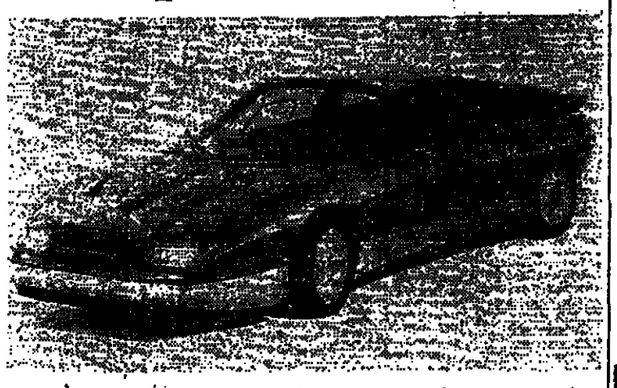
The feature which will attract the headlines, however, is the use of 66 solar cells to power an electric fan mounted in the ventilation airduct. The cells are incorporated in the glass roof and do not interfere with the airflow. The stonger the sunlight the faster the fan revolves. That means you can leave the car parked in blistering heat and return to find it immediately driveable because it has been ventilated automatically, with the air changing completely once every minute. No wonder Saab has rushed to patent it.

Used in conjunction with an air conditioner it slashes the time to reach present temperatures.

More and more manufacturers are fitting "dustbin lid" wheel discs to improve a car's slickness through the air. They do increase unwanted side effects however. The worst is the restricted airflow to cool brakes. Saab's answer is to build three air scoops into each wheel. By placing them on the inside, with entrance holes on the outside, the wheels rotation forces powerful jets of air onto the brakedises.

However admirably we view innovation, many of today's sports-cars accommodate the driver and a single passenger in reasonable comfort but pay only lipservice to carrying their luggage. Mr Bjorn Envall, the head of Saab's design centre says the EV1 is the exception: "It is compact but has generous interior space, accommodating four adults and a vast amount of luggage".

Now if all that is not enough, EV1 wasproduced from the drawing board to the finished car in only six months. That is what happens when you unleash a lot of frustrated "boffins" who cannot wait to see their pet theories converted into an actual roadgoing vehicle.



Saab EV1: Solar cells power ventilation

Rally – led sales

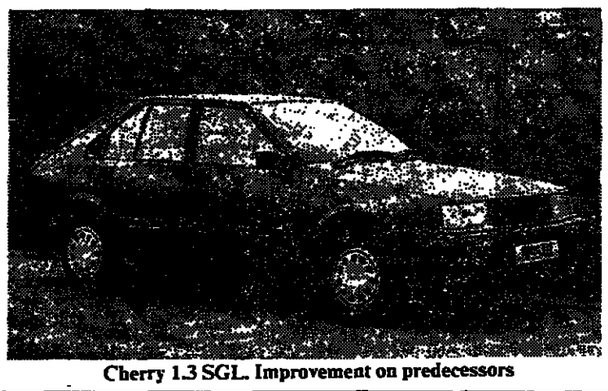
Peugeot's dealers are a lot happier these days thanks to the French group's apparently unstoppable 205 Supermini. Since its launch 18 months ago it has swept all before it in its home market, taking a remarkable 12.5 per cent of French car sales last month and beating Renault's new Super Five at every turn.

There is no question of achieving the same level of penetration in the much more open British market but its march up the charts here is still impressive. Last month it accounted for nearly half Peugeot's sales, taking more than 2.2 per cent of the market.

Much of the present demand is undoubtedly due to the success of the 205 Turbo 16, the car to beat in the rally world today. Rally led sales are mainly to private motorists but the 205's appeal is carrying it into much broader fields, including the all important fleet market.

Last month the 205 was Britain's best-selling diesel car, displacing Ford's Escort diesel and making considerable inroads into fleet business.

The very swift 205 GTI accounts for more than one in 10 of all 205 sales. Its reputation is such that car-hire companies at Heathrow recently ordered 100, because customers were asking for them specifically.



Cherry 1.3 SGL. Improvement on predecessors

Cherry ripe

A couple of months ago I tested an Alfa Romeo Arna. That is the Italian-assembled Nissan Cherry, fitted with Alfa's much revered 1.2 litre, horizontally opposed, four cylinder engine and gearbox. I was less than complimentary about the result of the partnership and commented that not even Alfa's distinctive, heart-shaped grill could disguise the fact that the Cherry was "a mediocre car at the best of times".

Nissan UK expressed surprise at my use of the word "mediocre" and offered the latest version to refresh my recollections. Motoring writers will recognise the tactic immediately. It is one they meet with frequently after a not very complimentary test report.

The conversation goes like this...

"Your findings do not agree with the general view. Perhaps your car was not up to scratch. Let us send you another which we will ensure is 100 per cent". On previous occasions I have declined this offer on the basis that they should never have let a less than perfect car out of their hands in the first place. This time there was a difference because the car on offer was a Nissan and the test complained of related to an Alfa. I had not tested the latest version of the Cherry, so I accepted the offer of a 1.3 SGL.

It was apparent immediately that the Japanese original is a much happier car than the Italian compromise. It is also a considerable improvement on the 1984 Cherry.

There was no semblance of the vagueness in straightline steering at speed which made motorway journeys in the Arna so edgy. Also missing was the feeling during even moderately fast cornering of having too little rubber in contact with the road.

The only explanation I can offer for this noticeable difference is the Arna uses Alfa front suspension units and steering rack but retains the standard Nissan rear suspension. Clearly the two are not compatible. Nissan UK stopped importing the Nissan version of the Arna, called simply the Cherry Europe, some months ago. Their dealers were unhappy with its quality and it made sense to clear the field for Alfa UK to campaign for the Arna as a much-needed bottom of the range model.

Vital statistics:

Model Nissan Cherry 1.3 SGL five-door
Price £5,545
Engine, 1270cc four cylinder
Performance. Maximum speed 93 mph, 0-60 mph 12.7 seconds
Offical consumption: Urban 36.7 mpg, 56 mpg 48.7 mpg and 75 mph 34 mpg
Length 13.1 ft
Insurance Group 2/3

Alfa factory executives I talked to at the Geneva motorshow recently admitted there had been mistakes with the first Italo-Japanese model and these were being rectified in Arna mark two. I only hope mark one has not already done too much damage to the famous old marque's image.

There are three levels of trim with the 1.3 Cherry – L, GL and SGL, with prices ranging from £4,696 to £5,545. Even the L is equipped with cloth seats, push-button radio and adjustable steering wheel. But only the SGL has a wide-ratio, fivespeed gearbox in which both fourth and fifth gear are overdrives. This inevitably means that you have to "stir the pudding" frequently to make fast times. Even so, the engine does its work without sounding thrashy unless pushed close to its 5,600 rpm limit.

The Cherry is surprisingly roomy for its size. I carried three elderly ladies on the rear seat for an admittedly short journey without being subjected to anything but their normal complainis about the standard of my driving.

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86 B 320i O/D, Red, sunroof, elec windows, PAS, alloys, sports seats, 1,300m.
85 B 320i Auto, 4dr, Metallic dark blue, luxury pack, power steering, stereo, 5,000m.
85 Y 323i Auto Metallic silver, sunroof, PAS, alloys, p/locking stereo, elec windows 14,000m.
86 B 325i O/D, Beige, manual, sunroof, c/locking, 1,500m.
85 B 525E Auto, Metallic black, sunroof, c/locking, front fogs, rear h/rests, 2,000m.
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-84 BMW 728i
4 speed auto, 5,650 mls, only. Polaris silver/anthracite cloth. ESR, EW, etc. Pioneer stereo.
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525i Automatic
A reg
Metallic red, 19,000 miles with F.S.H. Extras include electric sunroof, electric windows, TRX alloy wheels, immaculate throughout.
£8,450 01-882 6631

BMW 323i 1982 Cabriolet, silver grey, black interior extras include, alloy wheels, power steering, elec windows + stereo. £9,500 o.n.o. Tel: 01-729 5584 office hours.

635 C.S.I. Immaculate condition. F.S.H. Air cond. E.S.R. Cruise. Sapphire Met. Leather int. £10,750 ono. Tel: 0272 682494 (H) – 0272 736965 (O).

BMW 735i AUTO (Y)
Metallic silver, electric sunroof, alloy wheels, air cond, abs, on board computer, rear window blind, 1 owner, 35,000 miles, FSH, PX poss. £11,950.
0484 510707 or 510858 (business) 721011 (home).

323i MAY 1983
NEW SHAPE
Under 13,000 miles.
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BMW 732ia 1983
4-speed, cat, metallic paint Bahama gold, Matching interior. Alloys, Y-reg, history for inspection. BMW warranty. Private plate extra. £10,950. Nesmith (1944) 2625. Office 0527 27935.

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1982 Y BMW 520i, o/d, safari beige/brown cloth, new shape sunroof, r/cassette, 45,000 miles Dealer maintained, must see full service history, balance of warranty to end July. Excellent condition throughout. £5,750 ono. 0283 222070 Mr Place (office). 0602 399471 (home).

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BMW 633 CSI AUTO 1980, silver, recaros, elec roof/windows, W/W, Pioneer, new car arrived, must sell, £7,995 ono. Tel: Today 0789 765177, Wkdays 0827 20563 (Worcs) 8 am – 6.30 pm.

316 (A) NEW MODEL Metallic burgundy/anthracite. 5 gear. Pioneer stereo. Extended manufacturers warranty. Immaculate condition. 17,000 miles. £6,875. Tel Cheddington (0296) 668016.

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BMW 528SE Executive car. A reg '83, full specification, graphite/red leather, full electric Pioneer stereo. 20,000 miles, £12,275. Tel: office hours 02403 28881.

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BMW 323i automatic. September 84. Henna Red. 2 door, electric roof, heated mirrors. £1,100 Pioneer stereo. 8,500 miles. £10,750. Tel: High Wycombe 714 775.

BMW 316. Late blue, 23,500 miles, reg May 1982, well cared for, selling due to growing family. £5,200. 01-423 6666 (day). 01-980 0856 (eves).

320i 1983 (A) Henna Red. s/roof, c/locking, quality radio/cass. FSH. Excellent. £8,100 o.n.o. Tel: 0272 834281.

BMW 728i, W reg, beautiful gold with beige trim, ESR & mirrors. Sheet and MOT. Immaculate condition throughout. £6,495. – 958 7196.

316 'S', 4 dr. Blue met, 5 gear, rad/cass, 8,000 mls. £6,250 ono. 01-940 8858. 01-661 8273 (w).

318 new shape reg 83. Full spec. 5,000 miles. Inmac. £8,100 ono. Tel: 870 1952 or 348 4738 239 office.

1982 BMW 528i – 5-speed, cruise, metallic sunroof, stereo, tinted glass, electric windows, power steering, alloy wheels, 19,000 miles. £7,995. – Vogel Motors (Derby) Ltd. (0332) 31382.

UNDER PRICED Glass's guide recommended retail £21,400. 1984 BMW 735i SE auto sunroof, leather model. All extras, UK spec. FSH. Beautiful car. £16,995. Sun 0831 3331. wkdays 0432 267181 (T).

323i New shape. A reg, black/charcoal, alloy wheels, stereo, Lex Recaro seats, sunroof, electric windows, Pioneer stereo. Full history, low mileage, meticulous owner. £9,850. – 0705 467881.

BMW 323i. May 1981. Silver coachwork, sliding sunroof, 5 speed manual gear box. 43,000 miles. F.S.H. Fine condition. £4,850. (0544) 882717.

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500 SL 83Y Astral silver, Abs, r/seat, alloys, r/cass, 9,000 mls £24,250
280 SE 85B Met petrol blue, auto, air con, a/winds, r/cass, 400 mls £21,950
190 E 84B White, auto, a/roof/winds, r/cass, 8,000 mls £13,750
350 SE 79V Magnetite blue, auto, a/roof/wind, r/cas, 39,000mls £7,850
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230 TE 1985 Blue green Auto alloys Under 1,000 miles
280 TE 1983 Blue green, high spec £13,995
280 SE 1985 Smoke silver, high spec Under 1,000 miles
380 SE 1983 Manganese, velour esr, elec seats £18,995

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Office 021 351 1965

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THE HEAVENS declare the glory of God: and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Psalm 19: 1.

BIRTHS

CROSSLEY. – On 17th April at Kingston Hospital to Patti (nee Hayes). Wesley and Graham – a son (Christopher Matthew John).

FOSTER. – On April 15th at Gloucester G.P. Unit to Justine (nee Ashdon) and Bill, a daughter, Jessica Rhiannon, a sister for Alexander.

GILKES. – On 12th April, to Elizabeth and Roger, a son – Alexander William, a brother for Oliver and Edward.

GUTTERIDGE – On April 15th, 1985 at Wycombe Hospital to Ghislaine (née Davies) and William, a daughter, Tessa Jane.

HARGREAVES. – On April 18, to Fiona and Andrew – a son.

HEARN. – On April 13, at Sensevieigh Court, Dorchester, to Henrietta (nee Calder-Smith) and Simon – a son (Harry James).

HOLLIS. – On April 11th 1985 at the Royal United Hospital, Bath, to Jill and Guy – a son (George Onslow), a brother for James and Charlotte.

HOLROYD – On April 15th, in Barcelona to Karine and Richard – a son.

JESSOP. – On April 16th at U.C.H. to Janet and Julian – a son (Alexander Owen), a brother for Oliver and Sarah.

LAVERTY. April 10th to Hilary (nee Patten) & James – a son (John).

LYMAS. – On April 13, 1985, at Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital to Uschi (nee Lightfoot) and David – a son (Christopher David).

RAGAB. – On 16th April 1985 at The Barbican to Lesley and Mohamed – a daughter (Alexandra Phyllis).

SCROPE – on April 16th, to Penny (nee Davies) and Peter, at the West London – a daughter, Alexandra Beatrice Mary.

THOMPSON – On April 17th at West London Hospital, to Rebecca, wife of Edward Thompson, a daughter.

TOWNS. – On April 12th at the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, to Melanie (nee Pottery) and Charles – a son (Richard Charles), a brother for Maxine.

WHEER. – On 15th April, 1985, to Anne (nee Keegan) and Richard – a son, a brother to Thomas and Patrick.

WILLIAMS on April 10 at Queen Charlotte Hospital to Jacki (nee Stephens) & Roger a daughter Sophie Eleanor, a sister for Marcus John.

BIRTHDAYS

CLAIRE RODGER is 21 today. – Love from all the family.

MARRIAGES

WILLIAMS–FULLJAMES. – On April 12 in the Chapel, Brasenose College, Oxford, Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Celian Williams, of Chalfont St Giles, to Rosemary, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Fulljames, of Rhiwbina, Cardiff.

DEATHS

BIDWELL – On April 12 at Plaxtol, Kent, Margaret Evelyn (Biddy), aged 105. Great grand daughters of John Sell Cotman. Much loved by her family and friends, and by generations of girls at Enfield County School, to whom, at her request, Donations to the Save The Children Fund. Cremation service at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Tuesday, April 23 at 2.45 p.m. Requiem Mass at St Saviours, St Georges Square, SW1, at 12 noon on Wednesday, May 1.

BOND on April 16th Dora, Mary, widow of John Stewart Bond, peacefully at home aged 90 years. Funeral service at St Marys Church, Charlton King's, Cheltenham on Tuesday April 23rd at 2.15pm. followed thereafter by private cremation. No flowers by request. Donations in lieu, if desired, to The Royal Society for the protection of Birds, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

BISHOPSDEAN on April 16th in Canterbury, peacefully after a short illness, Colonel Sir Roderick Napoleon Brockman, DSO, MC. Fifth Baronet. Beloved husband of Bonnie. Will. Funeral private. Donations, if wished to Blue Cross Animals Hospital, Hugh St, London, SW1V 1QQ.

BROMLEY – On 17th April, John Selwyn, Emeritus Professor of Modern History at the University of Southampton, aged 72, husband of Jean. Funeral private. A memorial service will be held later.

CRAGG – On April 16th 1985 peacefully at Marigten Nursing Home, Exmouth, Mary Adelaide, aged 95 years, formerly of Link's Pinewood House, Budleigh Salterton, daughter of the late Captain W A Cragg JP FSA and Mrs Cragg of Tereshingham House, Uncombmere, sadly missed by her family. Cremation private on Tuesday April 23rd at Exeter. Memorial and interment of ashes service at Tereshingham Church to be announced later. No flowers. Donations to Tereshingham Church to be sent to Peake, Snow & Trevelyan, Solicitors, 5 Market Street, Sleaford, Lincs.

DIBBEN. – On April 14th, at The Middlesex Hospital, London, Michael Chapman Dibben Sprivery, Horsmonden. Nr Tonbridge, Kent. Greatly loved by all who knew him. Funeral to be held at Horsmonden Parish Church on Monday, 22nd April at 2.30pm. Flowers to Kemputer and Sons, 2 & 4 Albion Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

DIPRE – On April 15th, Reginald Dipre at Stamford Hill, London. He bore his suffering bravely and was strengthened by his Roman Catholicism, deeply loved and courteously minded by his wife Lucy, daughter Gianna, son Paul and all his family. Mass on Friday at St Ignatius, Stamford Hill, and burial at St John The Baptist, Eton Wick.

HANNINGTON. – On April 16th, in Perth, W.A., peacefully after a short illness, Rachel Gwendolen in her 70th year. Devoted wife of Jim, mother of Bob, David, Arthur and Charlie, and grandmother of ten. Previously of Hurstpierpoint, Sussex.

HIGGENS. – SISTER ALICE MARGARET of The Community of the Companions of Jesus the Good Shepherd, The Convent, West Cowell, Newton Abbot, survivor of the late Rev Alfred W. B. Higgens and Mary Julia (née Burn), peacefully, aged 88, at Newton Abbot Hospital, on Thursday, April 18, 1985. Funeral at The Convent at 9.45am on Saturday, April 20. Flowers to the Convent, please.

KELLY – On April 17th peacefully at home, Mary Innes Kelly of Reskin Corner, Brimpton Common, Reading in her 89th year, dearly loved mother of Anne and mother-in-law of Dave. Dear grandmother, aunt and friend of many. Private funeral. Memorial service at Brimpton to be arranged. No flowers please but if desired donations to Brimpton Church c/o Brimpton Lodge, Brimpton, Reading.

KENNEDY – COCHRAN – PATRICK, Jessie Borrie 'Killoch' the Orchard, West Kilbride on Monday 15th April 1985. Cameron Agnes twin daughter of the late Sir Neil and Lady Cochran-Patrick and dear sister of the late Eleanora Hunter 28 Laird of Hunterston and twin sister of the late Margaret Hamilton Kennedy-Cochran-Patrick. Private family cremation. Memorial service St Andrews Church, W. Kilbride on Monday 22nd April at 11am thereafter to West Kilbride Cemetery.

LANG – On April 17th 1985, suddenly Jacques A. beloved husband of Galia. Dearly loved father of Isabelle and devoted grandfather of Sacha. Funeral service at Domicile Mortuaire, Centre Funeraire de Vevey, 1800 Vevey, Switzerland, on Monday 22nd April at 2.00pm.

MacMARRUS VERONICA GRACE – On 17th April, 1985. Fortified by the rites of Holy Mother Church, Veronica Grace MacMarrus aged 84 years R.I.P. of Wilmington, Manchester and formerly of Ardvoitlin Cottage, Longsdale Road, Oban, Argyll. A much loved aunt of Alan, Patrick and Helen.

PEARSON – On April 17th 1985, aged 82, in St Peter's Hospice, Major Patrick Colin (Peter) Pearson RAOC (Retd), after a distressing illness, husband of Virginia. Funeral service in St Albans Church, Westbury Park, Bristol, on Tuesday 23rd April at 12.15pm, followed by interment at Shirehampton cemetery.

PHILLIPS. – On April 14, 1985, Eva Margaret, at the age of 91. late of University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and Chalford Hill, Glos. Enquiries to (04455) 883072.

QUALTROUGH (Joseph Mytchett). – On 16th April, 1985, at his home, Funeral Saturday, 20th April, at 2pm. Flowers to Dudley Mount, Castle Town, Isle of Man, or donations to the Mental Health Foundation. He will be greatly missed.

DEATHS

RUTHERFORD.—Harry on 17th April 1985 in hospital, aged 82 years, of Bowlacre Home, Cascross, Hyde, age of 17 Nelson Street, Hyde, Cheshire. Dearly loved husband of Robert and George, Service and committal at Dunkinfield Crematorium on Monday 22nd April at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Mr O'Reilly, Stepshill Hospital, Stockport. All enquiries to Mayers & Son, Hyde. Tel: 061 368 2565/5695.

SHEVD. – On April 15, 1985, peacefully, at Royal South Hants Hospital, Stella, late of Rockcliff, Mildew-on-Sea, Nants, very dearly loved sister and sister-in-law of Helen and Jos von der Schriek. Cremation private at Bournemouth on Wednesday, April 24 at 12.45 pm. Memorial service at all Saints Church, Milford-on-Sea, to be fixed at a later date. Details of time and day, please contact Moodys, Funeral Directors, New Milton. Tel: New Milton 615400. No flowers, but donations if desired, to Leukaemia Research Fund, c/o Treasurer, Mr Day, 85 Bardsdon Road, Bittern, Southampton.

TERRY—On 17th April peacefully in hospital, Jeanne, formerly of Scottsea, widow of W. G. Terry, beloved mother of Richard and Donald Baptiste. Funeral Service at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey, on Wednesday, April 24 at 11.20am. Flowers and enquiries to Longhurst Undertakers. Tel: Epsom 23548.

TRUMBLE—Alexander Thomas Gabriel, on April 14th aged 88. Dearly loved husband of Marjorie and loving father and grandfather. Cremation at Whippingham Crematorium, Isle of Wight, 12.30pm, 22nd April. No flowers or letters please. Donations if desired to Riding for the Disabled.

WILKINS. – On April 15th, peacefully at Trinity Hospice, SW4, Rev Harold George Cuddon Wilkins, husband of the late Marion, beloved father of Francis and Hesta, 25 years a servant with UMCA in Tanganyika. Lately vicar at St John's, Balham. Funeral service at St Mary's Church, Balham, SW12 at 2.30pm Tuesday, 23rd April, followed by Cremation at South London Crematorium. Requiem Mass at St Mary's, 7.30pm, Monday, 22nd April. Flowers to the church or donations to cancer research.

WYKEHAM – On 17th April, 1985, suddenly, Lieutenant Colonel Peter Geoffrey Wykeham OBE, MC, of Southern Tree House, Medstead Alton. Beloved husband of Nancy, cremation private, memorial service at St Andrew's Church, Medstead, at 3.30 pm on Thursday, 25th April.

IN MEMORIAM

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE Vere Frederick Cecil Hobart-Hampden, 9th Earl of Buckinghamshire, 13th Baron Hobart of Hickling, Died 19th April 1965, dearly love husband of Margot. Noble and good, True and Brave, with a sweetness of character unequalled. "Angels shall guard thee my darling."

HASHIMOTO – Roy Tetsuichi. 19.4.22 – 30.9.82. Dearest Roy my love always. Phyllis.

HUNTER In cherished memory of Norman Charles Hunter, playwright, who died 19th April 1971.

JAGGSON Stewart on April 13th 1985, suddenly, dearly loved and only brother of Alice and most beloved uncle of her children and grandchildren, with dearest love from us all. R.I.P.

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ASCOT BOX Excellent position, well furnished, Available June Royal meeting. Tel (0622) 25723.

WEST DOWNE, WINCHESTER. Founders Day, June 8. 10.30 a.m. Meeting 12 noon. Lunch, Cricket and shooting, over 18 only. Details from The Secretary, D.C.H. Howard, Knowles Farm, Rowlands, Hants. Tel: Southampton 814481.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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هكذا من الأصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

Ceefax AM.

Breakfast Time with Nick Ross and Sue Cook. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25, 8.55 and 9.18; regional news, weather and travel at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 7.20, 7.45 and 8.20; pop video news at 7.32; consumer report at 8.15; Glyn Worsnip's Diary at 8.37. Plus, shopping advice and gardening hints.

Ceefax. 10.30 Play School. presented by Elizabeth Watts. The guests are Brian Jameson and Arthur English. **10.50 Ceefax.**

News After Noon with Frances Coverdale and Moira Stuart. The weather details come from Bill Giles. **12.57** Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles).

Pebble Mill at One includes guest, David Steel, the Liberal Party leader and a Borders MP for 20 years. He talks about his recently published affectionate guide to his constituency. Lesley Bremness reports from the herb garden. **1.45 Hokey Cokey.** A See-Saw programme for the very young (r). **2.00 Ceefax.**

Racing from Newbury. Julian Wilson introduces coverage of three races – the Spring Maiden Stakes (2.30); the Gainsborough Stud Fred Darling Stakes (3.00); and the Mail on Sunday 3-y-o Series (3.30). The commentators are Peter O'Sullevan, Jimmy Lindley and John Hanmer. **3.45** Interval. **3.53** Regional news (not London).

Whizz. Puzzle game series. **4.10 Laurel and Hardy.** Cartoon version. **4.15 The Littlest Hobo.** Adventures of a German shepherd dog. **4.40 Secrets Out!!** A young panel try to guess contestants unusual hobbies. Presented by Johnny Ball. **5.05 The Red Hand Gang.** The fifth and final episode of the adventure (r).

Friday People. The guests include 12-year-old Samantha Smith from the United States, who received a certain amount of fame two years ago when she went to Russia to see President Andropov. There is also a day in the life of Gary Glitter; and Simon Le Bon interviewing Godley and Creme.

News with Nicholas Witchell and Jeremy Paxman. Weather. **London Plus.**

Wogan. The guests include Omar Sharif, Lenny Bennett, Miss Bluebell, Canadian pop star Bryan Adams and baritone Benjamin Luxon.

Odd One Out. Paul Daniels presents the last programme of the series in which contestants have to guess which word, picture or piece of music is the odd one out.

Cover Up. Glossy secret service series from the United States. Dani and Mac find themselves in the Bahamas on the trail of a crooked banker (Ceefax).

News with Julia Somerville. **Weather.**

Late Starter. Part six and Edward goes with his son, Simon, to the Salvation Army offices to find out where Mary is staying. The colonel assures Sam that Mary is well but refuses to disclose her whereabouts.

Film: A Man Called Horse (1970) starring Richard Harris. An English aristocrat is captured by a tribe of Sioux Indians and tortured, humiliated and treated as a horse. He survives and gradually immerses himself in Sioux culture to gain the tribe's respect and eventually takes a gruesome endurance test called the Sun Vow. Directed by Elliott Silverstein. **Weather.**

TV-am

6.15 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.16, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.39 and 7.37; exercises at 6.50 and 9.15; consumer advice at 7.15 and 9.05; Popeye cartoon at 7.23; pop video at 7.54; Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at 8.40. The guests include Jill Gascoine, Leslie Ash and Rosalyn Landor.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines followed by **Sesame Street. 10.25 Cartoon Time** (r). **10.30 At Home With the Spinners.** The popular and enduring group in rehearsal with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic. **11.00 Once Upon a Time . . . Man.** Animated history series.

11.30 About Britain. A film portrait of the North Downs in April.

12.00 Jamie and the Magic Torch help Nutmeg build a house (r). **12.10 Rainbow.** Learning with puppets (Oracle). **12.30 By the Way.** The first in a series of repeat programmes in which Ian Saynor follows a number of trails around Wales.

1.00 News at One and weather. **1.20 Thames news** with Robin Houston. **1.30 Film: Bunny O'Hare** (1971) starring **Bette Davis** and **Ernest Borgnine** as a pair of geriatric bank robbers. Directed by Gerd Oswald.

3.00 Gems. More drama from the Covent Garden fashion workshops. **3.25 Thames news** headlines. **3.30 Sons and Daughters.**

4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10. **4.20 Batfink. 4.25 Emu's All-Live Pink Windmill Show,** presented by Rod Hull. **5.15 Blockbusters.**

5.45 News. 6.00 The Six O'Clock Show.

7.00 The Practice. Drama serial set in a modern medical centre in the north of England.

7.30 Family Fortunes. Quiz show.

8.00 A Fine Romance. Comedy series about an out of the ordinary love affair. This week, Laura decides to accept a weekend job as an interpreter at a conference in Worthing. Mike decides to join her in order to protect her from other men (r) (Oracle).

8.30 Home to Roost. The first episode of a new comedy series starring John Thaw as the divorced father whose son turns up after an absence of seven years. With Reece Dinsdale (Oracle).

9.00 C.A.T.S. Eyes. The three-women undercover team are on the trail of a cat burglar, nicknamed the Black Magic Man, but before they can unmask him there is a deeper mystery to solve (Oracle).

10.00 News at Ten includes a report from Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon.

10.30 The London Programme presented by John Taylor. With the Government turning over London's bus routes to private operators, the London Programme examines the results of an experiment carried out last year in Hereford and Worcester. That turned out to be somewhat of a disaster but the Government claim they have learnt from the experiment. Are they telling the truth?

11.00 Shoot Pool! A quarter-final match in the John Bull Bitter London Pool Championship between Joe Barbera and Roger Blank.

12.00 Film: Vampire Circus (1971) starring Adrianne Corri and Lynne Frederick. Thriller set in a small Serbian town in 1810 where a woman and one of the village children disappear after entering Count Mitterhouse's sinister castle. Directed by Robert Young.

1.30 Night Thoughts.



Running Wild: The World About Us (BBC 2, 7.45)

● **RUNNING WILD** BBC 2, 7.45pm), Bob Saunders's film that inaugurates yet another season of *The World About Us*, is an emphatic repudiation of the old maxim about the folly of going to the well too often. It is the third *World About Us* film to show what some enlightened penal reformers in the United States are doing about those young offenders who show few signs of responding to any other kind of treatment. And it compares very favourably with the earlier films, *The Last Chance Wagon Train*, and *The Trail Blazers*, which told how VisionQuest, the rehabilitation organization, took young criminals from behind bars and introduced them to the Great Outdoors. It must have been gratifying to *World About Us* to learn that, thanks to their films, similar schemes were being adopted in Britain and other countries. I can, however, see that there are many practical difficulties in Britain's taking up the idea that is so vividly explained in tonight's documentary (although, since it costs the taxpayer more to send a youngster to jail than to Eton, there are good economic reasons why the idea should not be left on the table).

VisionQuest's latest scheme matches the wild youngsters against wild mustangs. The theory goes like this: by having to tame their four-legged counterparts, the two-legged ones are themselves tamed. And, if that sounds to you like a soft option, just wait until you see how terrifying concentrated equine fury can be when the silent freedom of the Nevada Desert is exchanged for ropes, bridles, shouts, and the restriction of the corral.

● **Radio highlights:** John Burrows's account of his lifelong love-affair with London's Hampstead Heath (Radio 4, 11.am); Italian writer Dacia Maraini's reflections (which she has still not committed to print) about the impact on her writing of the time she spent in a Japanese concentration camp (Radio 3, 7pm); and André Previn's authoritative examination of the lyrics of Ira Gershwin (Radio 2, 10.30pm). **Kaleidoscope** includes an item about the Edward Lear exhibition at the R.A. Nobody who saw last Sunday night's BBC2 film about Lear, *On the Edge of the Sand*, and enjoyed it as much as much as I did, will want to miss tonight's edition of Radio 4's arts review.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

6.55 Open University: About Frequency Response 7.20 Weekend Outlook. Ends at 7.25

9.00 Ceefax.

10.25 World Snooker. The eighth day of the Embassy World Professional Championship from the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. Terry Griffiths continues his match against Alex Higgins; and Tony Knowles and Doug Mountjoy complete their second round game.

2.30 approximately **Snooker Break** in which David Vine and a team of experts answer viewers' letters about the players, the game and the championship.

3.00 World Snooker. Ray Reardon begins his second round match against Patsy Fagan while Jimmy White and Tony Meo complete their game. The commentators are Ted Lowe, Jack Karnehm and Clive Everton.

5.25 News Summary with subtitles. Weather.

5.30 Eureka. This week's edition deals with the inventions of the tape recorder, the gramophone and the game of darts. Among those taking part in the dramatic reconstructions of these historic events are the presenter, Paul McDowell, and Madeleine Smith and Sylvester McCoy.

6.00 Tropical Time Machine. Dr Alison Jolly reports from Madagascar on which, after it broke loose from mainland Africa 100 million years ago, there developed a unique wildlife. Dr Jolly discovers that this living museum of evolution is on the verge of destruction (r).

6.50 Gardeners' World from the Kent garden of Harold Syms where he has succeeded in growing a remarkable collection of alpines. From Nepal, plant hunter David Sayers shows the same alpines in their natural setting.

7.15 World Snooker. Highlights of the final frames of the Meo/White clash; the closing frames of the Higgins/Griffiths game; and the start of the second round match between Dennis Taylor and Eddie Charlton.

7.45 The World About Us: Running Wild. A new series begins with an examination of a revolutionary scheme in the United States to rehabilitate tough young offenders. (See Choice).

8.35 World Snooker. Further coverage from the Crucible, Sheffield.

9.00 Just Another Day. John Pitman spends the day with three couples who are moving house and with the men who are helping them to move.

9.30 Around with Alliss. Peter Alliss plays a few holes of the Trevose Golf and Country Club with Alec Bedser (Ceefax).

10.00 World Snooker.

10.30 Newsnight. 11.15 Weather.

11.20 World Snooker. Ends at 12.40.

CHANNEL 4

2.30 Master Bridge. Individual bridge tournament in which the competitors change partners after every round (r).

3.00 Film: Gates of Heaven (1978). A documentary about the pet cemeteries of California as a means of examining the American dream and way of life. Produced and directed Errol Morris.

4.30 Isaura the Slave Girl. Brazilian-made soap-opera set on a plantation in the 19th century. Neighbouring land-owner Tobias is smitten by the beautiful Isaura, but unaware of her circumstances. Followed by **Fantastico.** A celebration of the music and dance of modern Brazil.

5.30 Friday Zone begins with ECT. For Heavy Metal fans featuring, this week; Girlschool, Torme, Waysted and Rogue Male.

6.10 Paintbox. Horse Box, a ten minute interlude far removed from the traditional 'potter's wheel' time-filler.

6.20 Soul Train. Presented by Jeffrey Daniel. The all-soul programme includes numbers by Phyllis Nelson, Fat Boys and The Cool Notes.

7.00 Channel Four News and weather.

7.30 Right to Reply. A selection from the Video Box complaining, among other things, about the scheduling of Hill St Blues; references to cocaine in the Heavy Metal programme *ECT*; and racism in Isaura the Slave Girl.

8.00 What the Papers Say. Freelance journalist Peter Hannassy casts a critical and experienced eye over how the Press has treated the past week's news.

8.15 A Week in Politics, presented by Peter Jay. A report on the split in the British Communist Party as both sides prepare for battle at next month's congress.

9.00 The Cosby Show. Comedy series starring Bill Cosby and successful and happily married obstetrician, Cliff Huxtable, tonight being over-solicitous to his daughter's new boyfriend.

9.30 Gardeners' Calendar, presented by Hannah Gordon. The experts from the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley with advice on how to cleft-graft an apple tree and how to start a traditional cottage garden.

10.00 Cheers. Comedy series set in a Boston bar

10.30 The Single Life. Five people – a designer, a young Asian girl, a karate champion, an actor, and a retired alternative cabaret poet – explain why they prefer to live on their own.

11.20 Film: Praise Marx and Pass the Ammunition (1968) starring John Thaw, Edna Ronay and Louis Mahoney. Comedy about a working-class Marxist-Leninist who dreams of bringing the revolution to England. Directed by Maurice Hatton.

1.00 Closedown.

Radio 4

5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing; Weather. 6.10 Farming. 6.25 Prayer.

6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News summary. 6.45 Business News. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50 Your Letters. 8.57 Weather; Travel.

9.00 News.

9.05 Desert Island Discs. The castaway is Dr Joseph Allen, physicist and astronaut (r).†

9.45 More Wrestling Than Dancing. With David Moresu: Apples and Au Pairs.

10.00 News; International Assignment.

10.30 Morning Story: 'Mike and Me' written and read by Brian Glanville.

10.45 Daily Service.†

11.00 News; Travel; The Heath and Me. Playwright John Burrows's favourite open London space – Hampstead Heath.

11.48 Natural Selection. Barry Paine on the virtues of garlic.

12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer advice, with John Howard.

12.27 Instant sunshine. . . Second of six entertainments, in words and music.12.55 Weather.

1.00 The World at One: News.

1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.

2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Birmingham. Brian Naylor enthuses about kites.

3.00 News; Micah Clarke by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Dramatised in five parts. (3): King Monmouth (r).†

4.00 News; Going Places. Clive Jacobs with news of the world of travel and transport.

4.40 Story Time: 'A Night to Remember' by Walter Lord. Abridged in ten parts (5). Reader: Brian Gear.

5.00 PM: News Magazine.

6.00 The Six O'Clock News.

6.30 The Bodgers. Comedy with John Docherty, Moray Hunter, Peter Baikie and Gordon Kennedy [new series].†

7.00 News.

7.05 The Archers.

7.20 Pick of the Week. June Knox-Mawer with TV and radio extracts.†

8.20 Stop Press. Nigel Rees examines the way newspapers have behaved this week.

8.45 Any Questions? from Wadhurst, East Sussex. With Malcolm Muggeridge, Lord Fitt, Tim Bell, Ann Mallalieu, and John Timpson.†

9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes comment on the film Choose Me, and the Edward Lear exhibition at the Royal Academy.

10.15 A Book at Bedtime: 'A Moveable Feast' by Ernest Hemingway. (3). David Buck is the reader.

10.30 The World Tonight.

11.00 Today in Parliament.

11.15 The Financial World Tonight.

11.30 Week Ending. Satirical view of the week's news. 12.00-12.15 News; Weather. 12.33 Shipping.

VHF (available in England and S Wales only. Radio 4 vhf is as above except: 5.55-6.00am Weather; Travel. 1.55-2.00pm Listening Corner. 5.50-5.55 PM (contd). 11.00-12.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. **7.00** News.

7.05 Morning Concert: Ireland's A London Overture (LPO/Boult); Fauré's Elegie for cello and orchestra (Tortelier/Orchestre du Capitole de Toulouse); Haydn's Piano Trio in G (Gypsy Trio) played by Beaux Arts Trio; Delius's In a Summer Garden (Halle/Barbirolli).† **8.00** News.

8.05 Morning Concert (contd): Chagrin's Helter Skelter; Milhaud's Sonatine for two violins Op 221 (Hazel Smith/Maureen Smith); Rachmaninov's Preludes in B minor Op 32 No 10 and G minor Op 23 No 5 (Ashkenazy); Ireland's Piano Concerto in E flat major (Parkin/LPO).† **9.00** News.

9.05 This Week's Composer: Hindemith. Concerto for Orchestra Op 38 (Hindemith/Berlin PO); Symphony in B flat for concert band (Philharmonia/Hindemith); Symphonic Metamorphosis of themes by Carl Maria von Weber. (mono and stereo recordings).

10.00 Greig and Reizenstein: Benjamin Kaplan (piano) plays Grieg's Six poetic tone pictures. Op 3. Stormclouds, and Resignation: Scherzo-Impromptu; Folkestone (Studie-Hommage a Chopin, from Moods Op 73). Reizenstein's Suite Op 8, and Legend Op 24.†

10.45 Langham Chamber Orchestra. BBC Singers and Tracey Chadwell (soprano). Hans Leo Hassler's Five Dances; Holst's Seven part songs for female voices and orchestra; Vaughan Williams's Concerto Grosso for string orchestra.†

11.35 Violin and Piano: Nona Liddell and Daphne Ibbott play Malcolm Arnold's Sonata No 1; Sibelius's Sonatine Op 80; and Joaquin Nin's En el jardin de Lindaraja.†

12.15 Midday Concert: Tommy Reilly (harmonica), BBC Concert Orchestra. Part one. Gordon Jacob's Fantasia on the Alleluia Hymn; Five pieces for harmonica and strings; Symphony for Strings.† **1.00** News.

1.05 Concert: part two. Bizet's Symphony in C.†

1.35 Schubert and Wolf: Patricia Rozario (soprano) with Mark Troop (piano) including Schubert's Die Gebusche; Nachtviolen; and Wolf's Verschwiegene Liebe; Der Gartner; Elfenlied; and Der Knabe und das Immlein.†

4.00 Choral Evensong: from Chapel of Jesus College, Cambridge – live†; **4.55** News.

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: another of Andrew Keener's selections of music.†

6.30 Music for Two Guitars: Evangelos and Liza play Castelnuovo-Tedesco's Fuga elegiaca; Scheit's arrangement of Scheidler's Sonata in D; and Lagoya's arrangement of Handel's Chaconne in G, HWV 435.†

7.00 The Poisoned Thorn: The Italian writer Dacia Maraini in conversation with Graham Fawcett.

7.30 Music Group of London: part one. Beethoven's Trio in D, Op 70, No 1.†

8.00 Female Forms: talk by the cultural historian Marina Warner. First of two.

8.20 Concert: part two. Messiaen's Quatuor pour la fin de temps.†

9.30 Brahms: Serenade No 2 in A, Op 16 (LSO/Kertesz); and Song of Destiny (Occidental College Choir, Columbia SO/Bruno Walter.†

10.15 New Premises: a second chance to hear the first of a new series of arts reviews, with Stephen Games.

11.00 Beethoven Piano Sonatas: Alfred Brendel plays Sonata in F major Op 10 No 2; Sonata in E flat major Op 81a; and Sonata in D minor Op 21 No 2.†

11.57 News. Until 12.00.

VHF only: Open University. 5.35 to 6.55am. Open Forum: Students' Magazine.

Radio 2

On Long wave. † Stereo on VHF. News on the hour (except 8.00 pm and 9.00).

Headlines 5.30 am, 6.30 and 8.30. 4.00 am Howard Pearce.† 6.00 Bill Rennels.† 8.05 Ken Bruce.† 10.30 Jimmy Young.† 1.05 pm Sports Desk; David Jacobs.† 2.00 Gloria Hunniford incl. 2.02, 3.02 Sports Desk. 3.30 Music All the Way.† 4.00 David Hamilton incl. 4.02, 5.05 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn † incl. 6.02 Sports Desk. 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (MF) only. 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night † incl. 8.20-8.40 Peter Pratt and friends. 9.30 The Organist Entertains with Nigel Odgen. 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 It's A Funny Business (British Johnston). 10.30 Lyrics Of Several Occasions. (André Previn). 11.00 Jeremy Beadle's Nightcap. 1.00 am Steve Madden Nightride. † 3.00 Big Band Special. † 3.30-4.00 String Sound.†

Radio 1

On medium wave. † Stereo on VHF. News on the half hour from 6.30 am until 9.30 pm and at 12 midnight. 6.00 am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 12.00 Gary Davies incl. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 2.30 Mark Page. 4.30 Select-A-Disc. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show (session from Snowblind.) VHF Radios 1 & 2. 4.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00 am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.30 Land of a Thousand Dances. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Reflections. 9.15 Shakespeare and Music. 9.30 A Bach Celebration. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 At Home With . . . 10.00 News Summary. 10.01 Kings of Swing. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In The Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 John Peel. 2.00 Outlook. 2.45 Letterbox. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Middle East Crucible. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Sarah and Company. 5.40 Book Choice. 8.00 World News. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Goldfinger. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.08 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Sacred Symphonies. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.45 Recording of the Week. 1.00 News Summary. 1.01 Outlook. 1.30 Those Swinging Years. 1.45 Letterbox. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Brain of Britain 1985. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 That's Trad. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

HTV WEST As London except: 9.25 am Contest Kid Strikes Again. 9.50 Gather Your Dreams. 10.15 Indian Legends of Canada. 10.40 Mysteries, Myths & Legends. 11.05-11.30 Silver Spoons. 1.20 pm News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Green Grow the Rushes' (Richard Burton). 5.15-5.45 Mr And Mrs. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Problems. 10.30 Your Say. 10.45 Gone With Regret – The Great Western. 11.15 Kojak. 12.15 am Live At City Hall. 12.45 Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00-7.00 pm Wales at Six. 10.30 Keeping Up With The Joneses. 11.00 Kojak. 12.00 Live At City Hall. 12.30 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 10.25 am Island Wildlife. 11.15-11.30 World's Children. 1.20 pm News. 1.30 Vintage Quiz. 2.00-3.00 Falcon Crest. 5.15-5.45 Cartoon Alphabet. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Bizarre. 11.00 The Master. 12.00 News. Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 10.25am Captain Scarlet. 10.50-11.30 Cities: Stockholm. 1.20pm News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Desert Mice (Alfred Marks.) 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Cartoon Alphabet. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 10.30 Look Who's Talking. 11.00 Rugby League. 11.55 News. Closedown.

TVS As London except: 10.25am Matt and Jenny. 10.50 Wattoo Wattoo. 11.00-11.30 Fireball XL5. 1.20pm News. 1.30 Outsider. 2.30-3.00 Arcade. 3.30-4.00 Survival. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00 Coast to Coast. 10.30 Film: Dr Blood's Coffin. 12.15am Company. Closedown.

TSW As London except: 10.25 am Standby . . . Lights, Camera, Action. 11.15-11.30 Prairie Habitat. 1.20 pm News. 1.30-3.00 Carry On Camping. 3.30-4.00 Adventurer. 5.15-5.45 Young Doctors. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.35 Film: Affair To Remember (Cary Grant). 12.35 am Postscript. Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 10.25am Gather Your Dreams. 10.50 Zurich: Step by Step. 11.20-11.30 Bella. 1.20pm Calendar. 1.25 Help Yourself. 1.30 Film: Great Van Robbery.' 2.55-3.00 Home Cookery Club. 5.15-5.45 Mr & Mrs. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 10.30 Police Squad. 11.00 Rugby League. 11.55 Mannix. 12.50am Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 9.25am Once Upon a Time . . . Man. 9.50 Poseidon Files. 10.45 Mystery. Myth and Legend. 11.05-11.50 Fireball XL5. 1.20pm Granada Reports. 1.30-3.00 Film: Lady in the Fog (Cesar Romero). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Vintage Quiz. 6.00 Sons and Daughters. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 10.0 Benson. 1.25am Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 10.25am Once Upon a Time . . . Man. 10.50 Professor Krtzel. 11.00 Wheelie and the Chopper Bunch. 11.25-11.30 Cartoon. 1.20pm Lunchtime. 1.30-3.00 Film: Swanee River. 3.30-4.00 Adventure. 5.15-5.45 Mr & Mrs. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.20 Sportscast. 6.45-7.00 Advice with Anne Hailes. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Falcon Crest. 11.30 Barney Miller. 11.55 News. Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 9.25am Sport Billy. 9.50 Mr Smith. 10.15 Bhutan – A Strange Survival. 11.10-11.30 Rainbow Theatre. 1.20pm News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Happy is the Bride' (Ian Carmichael). 5.15-5.45 Mr & Mrs. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.35 Film: Mackintosh Man (Paul Newman). 1.45am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 10.25am Cartoon. 10.40-11.30 Fabulous Funnies. 1.20pm News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Great Van Robbery. 5.15-5.45 Short Story Theatre. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30 Cross Question. 11.10 Indoor Bowls. 12.10am Film: Nickel Queen (Google Withers). 1.50 Jancis Harveys Sings, Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 9.25am Little House on the Prairie. 10.15 Chance to Meet . . . 10.25 Standby. Lights, Camera, Action. 11.15-11.30 Prairie Habitat. 1.20 pm News. 1.30-3.00 Carry On Camping. 3.30-4.00 Adventurer. 5.15-5.45 Young Doctors. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 What's On Where. 10.35 Film: An Affair to Remember. 12.35am Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 10.25am-11.30 Country Practice. 2.30-3.30 On the Market. 5.5-5.45 Barney Miller. 6.00 News and Scotland Today. 6.30-7.00 Sounds Gaelic. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Yellow Rose. 12.05am Closedown.

S4C Starts 1.00pm Isaura the Slave Girl. 2.00 Stori Sbri. 2.15 Interval. 2.25 Film: Lilian Russell (Alice Faye). 4.45 Hanner Awr Fwy. 5.30 Extra Celestial Transmission. 6.10 Paintbox. 6.20 Soul Train. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Tony Ac Aloma. 8.00 Pobol y Cwm. 8.30 Y Byd Yn Ei Le. 9.15 Snwcer. 9.55 Cheers. 10.25 Flying Into The Wind. 11.55 Book Four. 12.25 am Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 10.25am-11.30 Poseidon Files. 1.20pm News. 1.30 Country Practice. 2.30-3.30 On the Market. 5.5-5.45 Barney Miller. 6.00 News and Scotland Today. 6.30-7.00 Sounds Gaelic. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Yellow Rose. 12.05am Closedown.

CONCERTS

BARBICAN Barbican Centre, 01-638 8891/628 8795. Tom's SPRING LOVE CLASSICS. Tomorrow 7.30 Tom's 1 Session 2hr cond. Malcolm Sime Hons. Orchestra. TCHAIKOVSKY Orchestra Pieces. Tickets available from 10.30. Tomorrow Pieces. Tickets available from 10.30. Tomorrow 7.30 TCHAIKOVSKY: Romeo and Juliet Overture-Fantasy. Cameron Ballet. Tomor 7.45 Symphonic Orchestra. Brian Symphonic Orchestra. Brian Gosling. Antony Goldstone cond. Sun 7.30 Chamber Orchestra of Europe. Alexis Weissenberg, pianist. Alexander Schneider cond.

FESTIVAL HALL. 01-928 3191. BBC. & Tommy Sen ANNIVERSARY CONCERT. TOMORROW & RAY. Mon. 7.30 Peter Gibbs. Andrew Navarra, Inc. Beethoven: 5th Symphony. Cello Concerto in D. Elgar: Symphony No 1. In aid of BENEVOLENT FUND.

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Soviet anger as Britain expels two for spying

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain's burgeoning relationship with the Soviet Union received a setback yesterday when the Government expelled two Russians for spying.

Last night the Foreign Office was bracing itself for retaliatory action by Moscow, after an angry statement from the Soviet embassy in London which called the British move "unfriendly, provocative and without any foundation whatsoever".

The two men, who have been given a week to leave, are Captain Oleg Los, aged 44, assistant naval attache at the embassy, and Mr. Vyacheslav Grigorov, aged 37, who is charter manager with Aeroflot, the Soviet airline.

Captain Los has been living here with his wife since November 1982 and has a son, aged nine or ten, at school in Moscow. Mr. Grigorov has been in Britain since May 1982 with his wife and two children, one aged about 10, and the other, 11 months.

They are the first to be expelled since Mr. Arkadi Gouk, a First Secretary at the embassy, who was thought to be the KGB chief in London, and was given his marching orders last May, after being named in the trial of Michael Bettaney, the MI5 traitor.

Mr. Victor Popov, the Soviet ambassador, was summoned to the Foreign Office yesterday and given the news by Mr. Derek Thomas, a Deputy Under-Secretary.

The Foreign Office last night denied reports that the Russians had been advised earlier to withdraw the two men quietly, in order to avoid damaging their new "detente".

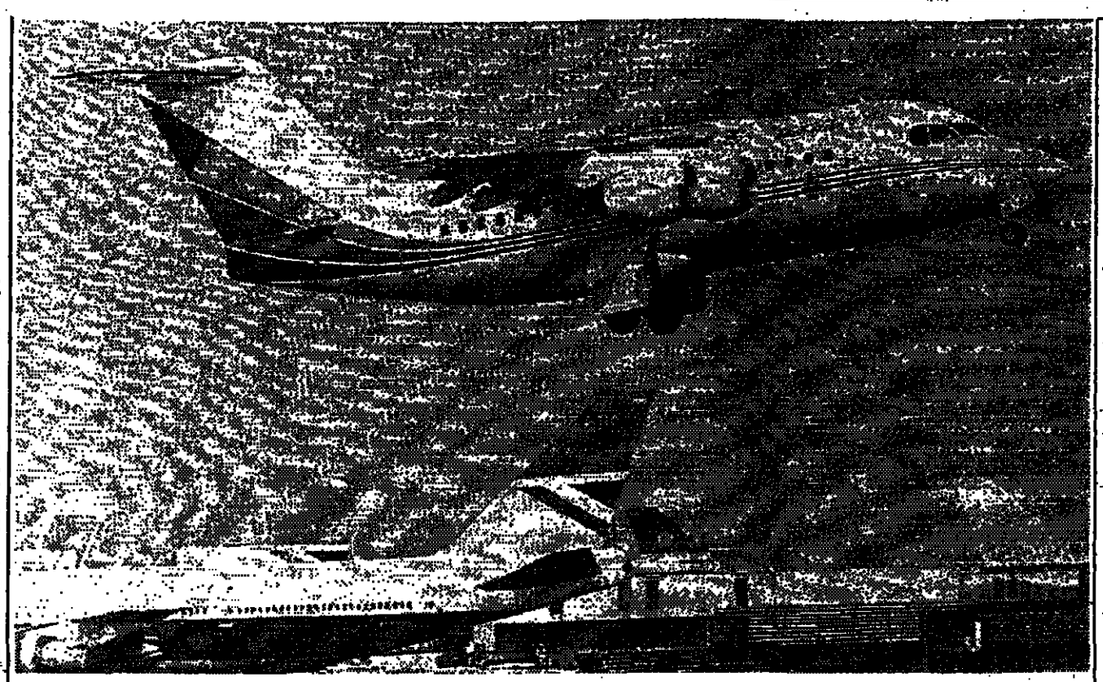
It had told Mr Popov that Britain would take "an extremely serious view" of any retaliatory action by Moscow, which would be entirely without justification.

The expulsion of Mr Gouk last year prompted the Russians to eject Mr John Burnett, a First Secretary at the British embassy in Moscow, and tit-for-tat responses have usually followed similar moves.

The Foreign Office also made clear that they have simultaneously reduced the number of permitted Soviet diplomats in London by one to 42, and the number of ancillary officials, including Aeroflot staff, by one to 104, thus ruling out any chance for the Russians to send replacements.

Mr Grigorov left the Aeroflot office in Piccadilly shortly before the news broke of his expulsion.

Last night's strongly worded protest from the Soviet embassy said accusations that Soviet personnel in Britain were involved in illegal activities had "nothing to do with reality".





First flight for Princess in new Royal plane

Princess Margaret takes off yesterday for her first flight in a British Aerospace 146 jet, which is expected to be a new Queen's Flight aircraft. The Princess, pictured left at Heathrow, was starting a five-day visit to Hungary.

The visit though styled unofficial, is seen in Budapest by diplomats and Hungarian politicians as being not without political significance (Richard Bassett writes).

The Princess, as President of the Royal Ballet, will attend a gala performance of *Manon* at the recently restored Hungarian National Theatre tomorrow. But she is also expected today to pay an official visit to Hungary's President, Mr Pal Losonczi, and the Hungarian Parliament.

In a series of formal and informal engagements she will meet representatives of the Hungarian Government, businessmen and leading figures in the arts.

British businessmen speculated that among the economic benefits resulting from the Princess's visit was the possibility of Hungary purchasing the British Aerospace 146 jet.

The Princess was met by Mr Peter Unwin, the British Ambassador, and Dr Józsé Benyi, the Hungarian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. She will be staying at the Embassy residence before flying to Switzerland on Monday.

£8.1m auction record set by Magi painting

Continued from page 1

"We were under the impression", he added, "that the Getty would not bid on a picture if they knew a British institution was interested, but would surrender the object and not bid against us."

Mr Myron Laskin, painting curator at the Getty, was in London but had told many people that he was not coming to the sale. The Getty seats, nos E1 and E2, were left conspicuously empty. Bidding was executed on behalf of the museum by Mr Tim Bathurst of Artemis, the international art dealers, based in Duke Street, St James's. He would not disclose when he received the bid.

The underbidder was Mr Guy Wildenstein of the famous international art-dealing dynasty, based in Paris, New York and London.

His final bid, in fact, topped that offered by Bathurst. He offered a further £50,000 on top of the Artemis bid but the auctioneer, Mr Patrick Lindsay, refused to accept so small an increment. "He knew that we went up in bigger jumps", Mr Lindsay said afterwards. "I was going up 5 per cent at a time".

Sale room, page 14

Thatcher in jobs clash

Continued from page 1

there had also been a fall of 135,000 in the number of employed men, the breadwinners. There was an increase of 6,000 in the number of people in the Armed Forces.

Mr Hattersley told Westminster journalists: "The 613,000 is therefore a very spurious calculation of health.

"The only way in which there can appear to be a fall in unemployment during the lifetime of this Parliament is if the government continues to massage the figures," he said.

But it is understood that Mrs Thatcher and the Cabinet will use the employment figures to fuel the debate on unemployment, and use them as further signs of long-term and sustained recovery.

Leading article, page 13

£100,000 for jobs board

Continued from page 1

seen to react positively to policies put up by the new institute.

The chairman of the new organization, Sir Richard O'Brien, former head of the Manpower Services Commission, said yesterday: "We have weighty and authoritative support from people in all walks of life. The Government will have to pay attention."

Government sources took some pleasure from the involvement of Mr Michael Meacher, the Shadow Cabinet member, with the new body, after his gaffe this week over mortgage interest relief.

Mrs Shirley Williams, a leading figure in the new alliance, said the British people had run out of patience with the Government's endless excuses

Parliament, page 4

Letter from Sheffield

Day the snooker circus hit town

The crowd around the steps leading to the stage door had come to get a closer glimpse of their sporting idols but they were experiencing some difficulty in recognising the lesser known faces.

David, aged 13, had ducked a morning from school to try and fill a few more pages in his blue-bound autograph book. "Sign here, mister", he said, thrusting it in front of a man with an official badge pinned to his shirt front.

"But I'm not a player son, I'm with the BBC."

"That's all right", said David. "Just sign anyway."

The snooker circus is back in Sheffield. For the ninth successive year the Embassy World Championships are being staged at the city's Crucible Theatre. For 17 days a city better known for its steel industry and its football teams is dominated by snooker.

But the times have changed since the event was first staged in the city. Television has popularised the game and glamourised its participants. The top players who would once have stopped to talk over a beer with reporters covering the event now have managers in expensive suits and gold chains to deliver their statements, reserving their own words for carefully orchestrated press conferences in a little side room of red and black striped chairs in front of a presidential-style white podium.

Officials of the game are anxious to present a "cleaner than clean" image; hence the announcement of compulsory drug testing for all players in the event. Tabloid newspaper stories about the sex lives of its players or allegations of the use of illicit substances, send shivers of apprehension through the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association.

Players such as Steve Davis can earn more than £100,000 a year in tournament winnings, but the big money comes from sponsorship arrangements. The winner of the world championships not only collects a £60,000 prize but the title opens the door to sponsorship worth about £1 million.

The Crucible Theatre is in Sheffield's city centre, hedged in by insurance offices and with at least three churches emptying their congregations onto the pavement opposite the stage door.

All around the building the BBC's outside broadcast vans are parked on the pavements. Coverage is one of the major outside broadcast events of the year employing 140 staff and estimated to cost about £3 million. Some 90 hours of the event is broadcast live or recorded and is reckoned to be viewed by more than 100 million people. The final alone attracts an armchair audience of 12 million. But the corporation is sensitive to allegations of over-manning on the event. Mr Nick Hunter, the executive producer regretted opening his heart to a Sunday newspaper at the beginning of the championships and has subsequently refused to speak to any other newspaper at all.

As well as the television audience the event attracts full houses for every match with most of the 1,000 seats for each of three sessions each day, sold out months in advance.

The audience ranges from schoolboys to grandmothers, from those who have come to see their heroes in action to those who are here for a more basic financial reason.

Mrs Elsie Holdsworth, aged 66, has bought a season ticket for each of the last five years. This year, using cash presents from her family at Christmas and her birthday, she paid £200 to book her seat for each of the 48 sessions. Other fans take their annual holidays to come and watch every match even now, before the finalists are known. £10 tickets for the match are changing hands at up to £80 on a thriving black market.

The event also attracts £5 million of bets. One gambler has placed £5,000 on Jimmy White, the young Londoner, to take the title. If he does, the man stands to win £43,750. Coral's, the bookmakers, even have a betting shop in the theatre foyer and have taken bets ranging from £1 to £1,000 already.

Peter Davenport

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits Stratford-upon-Avon and opens the District Council offices, 11.25.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visit Italy; depart Heathrow 9.25.

New exhibitions

A Forgotten Experiment: colour photographs from the Farm Security Administration. Impressions Gallery of Photography, 17 Colliergate, York: Tues to Sat 10 to 6 (ends May 18).

On Close Inspection: selected works of art from the Hatton Gallery Collection: Hatton Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne: Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 4.30 (ends June 8).

Paintings, drawings, graphics and sculpture by gallery artists: Colin Jellicoe Gallery, 82 Portland St, Manchester: Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 1 to 5 (ends May 11).

Matta: The Logic of Hallucination: Hatton Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne: Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4.30 (ends May 25).

Exhibitions in progress

Cadbury's National Exhibition of Children's Art: Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Lichfield St: Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (ends May 11).

Watercolours of flowers by Jane Wormell: Speiman's Bookshop, 70 Micklegate, York: Mon to Sat 9 to 5.30 (ends May 11).

The Birth of the Ark Royal: Walker Art Gallery, William Brown, Liverpool: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends April 28).

Inside Industry: recent drawings by Philip Brown: City Museum and Art Gallery, Priestgate, Peterborough: Tues to Sat 12 to 5 (ends April 27).

Landscapes 1981-1985 by Judith Frost: Dorset County Museum, High St, Dorchester: Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 1 and 2 to 5 (ends April 27).

Ceramics by Carolyn Wrighton: The Craft Gallery, 54 London Rd, Leicester: Mon to Sat 9.30 to 5.30 (ends May 3).

Woven tapestries by Grace Erickson: Monmouth Museum, Priory St. Mon to Sat 10.30 to 1 and 2 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends April 28).

Last chance to see

Wood engraver and designer Renolds Stone, National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, 9.30 to 5.

Chinese Artists: Harbour Artists Centre, Irvine, Strathclyde, 7 to 11pm.

Recent paintings and drawings by Neil Miners: Falmouth Art Gallery, Municipal Offices, 10 to 1 and 2 to 4.30.

Music

Concert by the Orchestra da Camera: St Andrew's Church, Naunton, Nr Cheltenham, Glos, 7.30.

Concert by the Prelude Brass Quintet: Ballymore Parish Hall, Tandragee, Northern Ireland, 8.

Concert by the Dave Shepherd Quintet: Badworth Hall, Ongar, 8.

Concert by the Hartley Trio: Sir John Leman School, Beccles, 7.30.

Concert by the Lay Vicars of Chichester Cathedral: Pallant House Gallery, Chichester, 7.30.

Concert by the Hallé Orchestra: St George's Hall, Bradford, 7.30.

Grand Piano duet by Jose Feghali: Trinity Arts Centre, Church Rd, Tunbridge Wells, 8.

Concert by the National Youth Choir of Great Britain: Ashford School, Kent, 7.30.

Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta: Crediton Parish Church, 7.30.

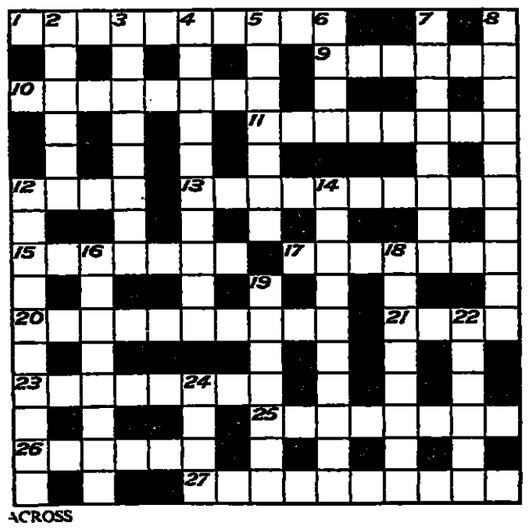
General

Book Fair: McLellan Galleries, Sauchiehall St, Glasgow, 12 to 8, tomorrow 10 to 5.

Heart of England Craft Market: Arts Centre Hall, Warwick University, Coventry, 12 to 6, tomorrow 10 to 6, Sun 10 to 5.

South-East England Antiques Fair, The Grand, The Leas, Clifftop, Folkestone, 2 to 8, tomorrow 11 to 8, Sun 11 to 5.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,715



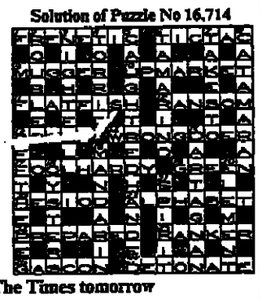
ACROSS

1 Solitary one perhaps caught rowing in a shell (6,4).
9 Current grant to join a party (6).
10 Barrels found around ancient dumps (8).
11 Trying writer is in Easy Street somehow (8).
12 Shovel flake off (4).
13 Putting at fault – that's the explanation (7,3).
15 Turns or makes chair (7).
17 Youthful institution that needs the right labs to work (7).
20 Don't forget the state of Antigonus on leaving! (*W. Tale*) (4,2,4).
21 Stitch – from going to work on a mushroom? (4).
23 Retiring, yet extrovert (8).
25 Girl has a gauge for the width of the ring (8).
26 River's last bit is brook (6).
27 It's the adder season, so keep watch ahead (10).

DOWN

2 Rotate right away to unfold (6).
3 Said to have tampered with gongs (8).
4 Sign of rejection to hitch-hiker? (6,4).
5 In the newborn, toes are pinkish (7).
6 Perch on this rock (4).
7 Landing place in between the lip or the cup? (8).
8 Not the plan to change the athletic contest (10).
12 Man of lowest rank shattered the king's uncle (10).
14 Outcome of a rendition exceeding normal limits (10).
16 It's not springtime that brings a small flood (4-4).
18 The grounds may be mined – stand outside! (8).
19 United, for example, in the natural history division (7).
22 Ransom note to judge (6).
24 Date that is not written in full (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,714



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Food prices

Supplies and quality of fish should be good this weekend due to improved weather conditions. Cod fillets £1.70-£1.90 a lb, small lemon sole and skate wings £1.60-£1.80, grey mullet £1, huss £1.50-£1.80, coley 88-90p, kippers £1.15, hen crabs £1.20 each scallops 48-58p a lb, fresh peeled prawns £1.70 a quarter lb, and winkles 70p a pint.

Meat prices are stable apart from lamb which is on its seasonal upward trend. Whole leg ranges from £1.59-£2.30 a lb, whole shoulder 96p-£1.55 and loin chops £1.72-£2.68. New Zealand lamb is down a penny or two on all cuts. Legs range from £1.29-£1.58, whole shoulder 70-96p, and loin chops £1.24-£1.64. Beef is a good buy particularly forequarter cuts which have not been selling well. Boneless brisket ranges from £1.38 to £1.70 a lb, chuck and blade £1.49-£1.82 for braising or pot roasting. Boneless sirloin £2.28-£3.38, and fillet steak £3.49-£4.88. Pork loin chops £1.28-£1.52, boneless shoulder £1-£1.39, and whole leg 80p-£1.24.

Some offers available at supermarkets are: Bejams whole and half legs of New Zealand lamb £1.24 a lb, and Bejam duck 75p a lb; Sainsbury whole shoulder of New Zealand lamb 68p a lb, and braising steak £1.72; Dewhurst whole New Zealand lamb for the freezer 79p a lb; Tesco New Zealand lamb chops £1.14 and British minced beef 89p a lb; Safeway pork fillet £2.49 a lb and fresh boneless leg of pork £1.69 a lb; Marks and Spencer frozen prawns £3.85 a lb and £1.95 for 8 oz.

Supplies of good quality cauliflower from Kent and Brittany are now in the shops and prices are reasonable at 40-60p each. Spring cabbage and greens are also slightly cheaper this week. English Savoy cabbage and greens 24-32p a lb, French spring cabbage 32-40p. Egyptian new crop potatoes 17-20p a lb are good and the first of the lovely glasshouse Jersey Royals at £1.24-£1.40 a lb can be found in some shops. Many salad ingredients are down in price this week namely Chinese leaves 48-60p, English and Dutch cucumber 40-60p each; round lettuce 15-20p each, and Dutch hothouse beef tomatoes 80-95p a lb.

Supplies of home grown rhubarb have increased and is cheaper this week ranging from 25-35p a lb. Spanish and Italian strawberries are excellent value at 45-60p a lb. Cape black Barlinka grapes and Cape white 65-85p a lb

The Godspeed

Godspeed, the 68' long sailing ship which is re-enacting the voyage of 1607 which took the first settlers to America from England will be entering London today. She will be moored in St Katharine Yacht Haven by the Tower of London for the public to view, from tomorrow until Friday, April 26. She will embark on the voyage to America at 10.45 on April 30 from Island Gardens, Isle of Dogs, in the presence of the Duke of Edinburgh.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Intoxicating Substances (Supply) Bill and Copyright (Computer Software) Amendment Bill remaining stages.

Anniversaries

Deaths: Lord Byron, Missolonghi, Greece, 1824; Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, prime minister 1868, 1874-80, London, 1881; Charles Darwin, Down, Kent, 1882; Pierre Curie, physicist, Nobel laureate 1903, Paris, 1906; Konrad Adenauer, Chancellor of Western Germany 1949-63, Rhöndorf, 1967.

Halley's comet reappeared, 1910.

Portfolio

Portfolio – how to play

Monday–Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-53272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

● Some Times Portfolio cards include minor misprints in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalidated.

● The wording of Rules 2 and 3 has been expanded from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Top films

The top box-office films in London:

1	(1)	A Passage to India
2	(4)	Dance with a Stranger
3	(5)	Micki and Maude
4	(3)	Beverly Hills Cop
5	(7)	Amadeus
6	(6)	The Killing Fields
7	(2)	2010
8	(8)	Carmen
9	(9)	Not Quite Jerusalem
10	(10)	The Never Ending Story

The top films in the provinces:

1 A Passage to India
2 The Never Ending Story
3 Morons from Outer Space
4 Ghostbusters
5 Indiana Jones and The Temple of Doom

Compiled by *Screen International*

Top video rentals

1	(1)	Police Academy
2	(4)	Codename Wildgeese
3	(3)	The Philadelphia Experiment
4	(2)	Star Trek III
5	(6)	Trading Places
6	(7)	Cannonball Run II
7	(9)	The Ice Pirates
8	(5)	Rolling Thunder
9	(8)	The Bounty
10	(10)	Firestarter

Supplied by *Video Business*

Roads

The Midlands: M45: Closed eastbound due to roadworks from junction 17 of the M1 near Rugby. **M1:** Contraflows of junction 17, extends southbound across the Watford Gap service area; all traffic in contraflow for about three miles; Watford Gap services closed. **M1:** Lane closures between junction 15 at Northampton and 14 the Newport Pagnell turn-off.

Wales and west: A55: Resurfacing at Llanfairechan with delays between Bangor and Conwy. **A48:** Resurfacing work at various locations between Bridgend and Cowbridge. **A419:** Roadworks at Stonehouse (junction 13/M5); single lane traffic and temporary lights during working day, Glos.

The north: A1: Lanes closed for flyover construction at Barnsdale Bar, S Yorks. **A193:** Lane restrictions for bridge repairs on Byker Bridge, Newcastle. **A627:** Ashton Rd will be closed to traffic approaching Oldham; diversion, Greater Manchester.

Scotland: A82: Road widening of Letterfinlay; single line traffic control between 8am and 8pm. **A87:** Roadworks W of Cluanie; temporary lights. **M74:** Construction work between junctions 1 and 2 (Lanark to Larkhall); contraflow system.

Information supplied by the AA

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.05	1.95
Austria Sch	28.15	26.75
Belgium Fr	80.75	77.00
Canada $	1.81	1.73
Denmark Kr	14.43	13.73
Finland Mkk	8.42	8.02
France Fr	12.19	11.64
Germany DM	3.99	3.81
Greece Dr	182.00	171.00
Hong Kong $	10.45	9.85
Ireland Pt	1.285	1.223
Italy Lire	2,555.00	2,435.00
Japan Yen	336.00	319.00
Netherlands Gld	4.535	4.315
Norway Kr	11.66	11.11
Portugal Esc	221.00	210.00
South Africa Rd	2.73	2.43
Spain Pta	221.00	210.00
Sweden Kr	11.73	11.19
Switzerland Fr	3.35	3.17
USA $	1.36	1.29
Yugoslavia Dnr	324.00	304.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 382.7.

London: The *FT* Index closed up 2.7 at 991.5.

Weather forecast

A trough of low pressure over S Scotland will move S to reach S England by midnight.

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S England, East Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Islands: Fog patches at first, sunny periods, becoming cloudy later with rain in places; wind S light; max temp 17C (63F).

E, NW, central N England, W Midlands, N Wales: Becoming cloudy, occasional rain; wind SW becoming NW light or moderate; max temp 15C (59F).

SW England, S Wales: Fog patches at first, sunny periods, becoming rather cloudy later with rain in places; wind S light; max temp 15C (59F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, NW England; Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Cloudy, occasional rain, brighter later with scattered showers; wind SW becoming NW moderate or fresh; max temp 12C (54F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney: Bright intervals, occasional heavy showers, wintry on hills; wind NW becoming N fresh or strong; max temp 9C (48F).

Shetland: Occasional heavy showers, bright intervals developing; wind variable becoming N, fresh or strong; max temp 8C (46F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Bright or sunny periods and scattered showers, but becoming mainly dry in the W; rather cold in the E.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind S or S-W, moderate becoming fresh; fair; visibility moderate with fog patches; sea slight becoming moderate. **Strait of Dover, English Channel (E):** Wind variable becoming S, mainly light; fair; visibility moderate with fog patches; sea smooth. **St George's Channel:** Wind mainly S, light or moderate; fair; visibility moderate with fog patches; sea smooth or slight. **Irish Sea:** Wind S-W, fresh, veering N-W strong; showers; visibility moderate with fog patches, becoming good; sea moderate or rough.

Sun rises: 5.57 am — Sun sets: 8.04 pm

Moon rises: 6.00 am — Moon sets: 7.22 pm

New moon tomorrow.

Lighting-up time

London 8.34 pm to 5.25 am
Bristol 8.43 pm to 5.34 am
Edinburgh 8.57 pm to 5.25 am
Manchester 8.47 pm to 5.28 am
Penzance 8.52 pm to 5.49 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F		C	F
Belfast	s 15	59	Guernsey	s 15	59
Birmingham	r 16	61	Inverness	c 7	45
Blackpool	c 15	59	Jersey	s 17	63
Bristol	s 16	61	London	s 17	63
Cardiff	s 17	63	Manchester	r 16	61
Edinburgh	r 12	54	Newcastle	r 16	61
Glasgow	r 16	61	Ronaldsway	r 9	48

London

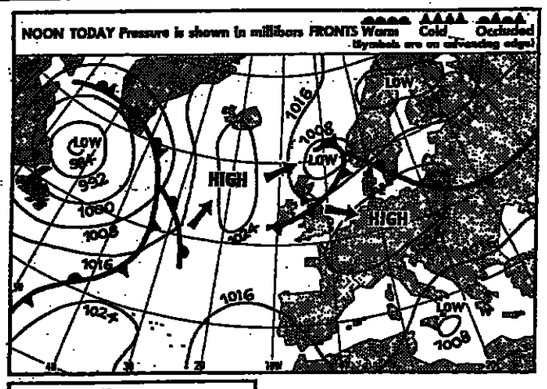
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 19C (66F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 9C (48F). Humidity: 6 pm, 47 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun 24hr to 6 pm, 11.4hr Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,027.4 millibars

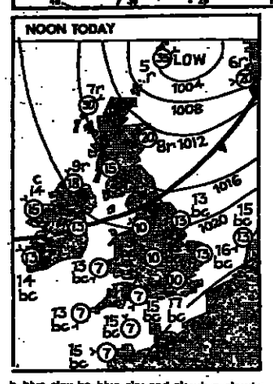
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: London Weather Centre, Bristol, 19C (66F); lowest day max: Butt of Lewis, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Santacula, 0.24in; highest sunshine: Guernsey, 12.8hr.

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Weather





b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; l-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures centigrade.

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.27	6.8	2.51	7.0
Aberdeen	1.57	3.9	1.59	3.9
Avonmouth	7.53	12.5	8.10	12.5
Belfast	11.42	3.1		
Cardiff	7.38	11.6	7.55	11.6
Devonport	6.27	5.3	6.43	5.3
Dover	11.48	5.1	11.39	6.3
Falmouth	5.51	5.1	6.13	5.1
Glasgow	1.39	4.4	1.53	4.7
Harwich	12.24	3.8	12.53	3.8
Holyhead	10.56	5.3	11.17	5.1
Hull	7.04	6.8	7.04	7.3
Ilfracombe	6.37	8.6	6.51	8.6
Leith	3.15	5.1	3.23	5.2
Liverpool	11.54	9.0		
Lowestoft	10.24	2.2	10.14	2.3
Margate	12.29	4.4	1.04	4.4
Milford Haven	6.51	6.6	7.08	6.6
Newquay	6.42	6.7	5.59	6.6
Oban	8.29	3.8	8.58	3.7
Penzance	5.19	5.4	5.39	5.4
Portland	7.34	1.9	8.04	2.0
Portsmouth			12.05	4.4
Shoreham	11.55	5.8		
Southampton	11.37	4.2	11.57	4.3
Swansea	7.03	9.0	7.18	9.0
Tees	4.22	4.9	4.27	5.2
Walton-on-Naze	12.08	3.8	12.33	3.9

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
EAST COAST					
Scarboro	9.0	–	15	59	sunny
Bridlington	10.3	–	12	54	sunny
Cromer	5.0	–	16	61	sunny
Lowestoft	7.4	–	12	54	sunny
Clacton	9.1	–	12	54	sunny
Margate	–	–	13	55	bright
SOUTH COAST					
Folkestone	11.3	–	17	63	sunny
Hastings	11.6	–	17	63	sunny
Eastbourne	11.7	–	13	55	sunny
Brighton	–	–	17	63	sunny
Worthing	12.7	–	16	61	sunny
Littlehampton	12.4	–	16	61	sunny
Bognor R	11.9	–	14	57	sunny
Southsea	12.0	–	16	61	sunny
Sandown	10.9	–	14	57	sunny
Shanklin					
Bournemth	10.4	–	17	63	sunny
Poole	11.2	–	16	64	sunny
Swanage	10.8	–	12	54	sunny
Weymouth	11.2	–	14	57	sunny
Exmouth	10.9	–	14	57	sunny
Teignmouth	11.9	–	13	55	sunny
Torquay	12.2	–	15	59	sunny
Falmouth	12.3	–	14	57	sunny
Penzance	12.5	–	15	59	sunny
Jersey	12.6	–	19	66	sunny
Guernsey	12.8	–	16	61	sunny
WEST COAST					
Scilly Isles	11.9	–	14	57	sunny
Newquay	12.2	–	16	61	sunny
Ilfracombe	11.3	–	18	66	sunny
Tenby	10.7	–	14	57	sunny
Colwyn Bay	7.2	–	18	64	sunny
Southport	9.7	–	18	64	sunny
Morecambe	8.2	–	17	63	sunny
Douglas	8.9	–	13	55	sunny
ENGLAND AND WALES					
London (Cnr)	11.4	–	18	66	sunny
S'ham (Airpt)	7.8	–	17	63	sunny
Bristol (Cnr)	10.6	–	19	66	sunny
Cardiff (Cnr)	11.6	–	18	64	sunny
Anglesey	10.0	–	16	61	sunny
B'pool (Airpt)	9.1	–	18	64	sunny
Manchester	8.6	–	18	64	sunny
Nottingham	4.3	–	18	64	cloudy
N'cstl-u-Tyne	9.8	–	17	63	sunny
Carlisle	10.2	–	17	63	sunny
SCOTLAND					
Eskdalemuir	8.5	–	16	61	fog am
Prestwick	12.3	–	17	63	sunny
Glasgow	9.3	–	17	63	bright
Tiree	6.9	.01	12	54	bright
Stornoway	1.7	.03	9	48	rain am
Lerwick	2.1	.01	10	50	cloudy
Wick	2.1	–	9	48	cloudy
Kinloss	1.3	.02	9	48	rain am
Aberdeen	3.3	–	13	55	cloudy
St Andrews	5.9	–	12	54	sunny
Edinburgh	5.5	–	14	57	bright
NORTHERN IRELAND					
Belfast	10.1	–	17	63	sunny

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

	C	F		C	F		C	F
Ajaccio	f	17	63	Cologne	s	16	61	Majorca	s	21	70	Rome	s	22	72
Alicante	s	21	70	Copenhgn	s	13	55	Malaga	s	26	82	Salzburg	c	10	50
Alexandria	s	24	75	Corfu	f	18	64	Malta	f	18	61	Sao Paulo*	c	24	75
Algiers				Dublin	s	13	55	Melbourne	r	15	59	S Francisco*	f	14	57
Amsterdam	s	16	61	Dubrovnik	f	17	63	Mexico C*	s	22	72	Santiago*	s	19	66
Athens	f	19	66	Faro	s	22	72	Miami*	s	26	82	Seoul	s	18	61
Bahrain	s	30	86	Florence	f	15	59	Milan	c	15	59	Singapore			
Barbados*	f	28	82	Frankfurt	s	15	59	Montreal				Stockholm	s	9	48
Barcelona	s	17	63	Funchal	c	17	63	Moscow	r	7	45	Strasbourg	s	15	59
Beirut	s	25	77	Geneva	s	12	54	Munich	f	9	48	Sydney	s	20	68
Belgrade	c	10	50	Gibraltar	s	26	79	Nairobi	c	24	75	Tangier	s	23	73
Berlin	f	18	61	Helsinki	f	6	48	Naples	f	13	55	Tel Aviv	s	25	77
Bermuda*	r	18	64	Hong Kong	c	24	75	New Delhi	s	36	97	Tenerife	s	23	73
Biarritz	c	19	66	Innsbruck	f	10	50	New York*	s	12	54	Tokyo	c	11	52
Bordeaux	fg	13	55	Istanbul	c	11	52	Nice	s	18	64	Toronto*	s	4	39
Boulogne	s	19	66	Jeddah	s	36	97	Oslo	f	9	48	Tunis	c	14	57
Brussels	s	18	61	Jo'burg				Paris	s	16	61	Valencia	s	18	66
Budapest	c	12	54	Karachi	s	30	86	Peking	s	20	68	Vancouver*	c	9	48
Buen Aires*	s	21	70	Las Palmas	s	21	70	Perth	s	21	70	Venice	s	17	63
Cairo	s	27	81	Lisbon	s	22	72	Prague	s	13	55	Vienna	c	11	52
Cape Tn	r	16	61	Locarno	s	17	63	Reykjavik	f	5	43	Warsaw	s	13	55
C'blanca	c	26	77	L Angeles*	s	17	63	Rhodes	s	20	68	Washington			
Chicago*	s	17	63	Luxembg	s	13	55	Riyadh	s	36	97	Wellington*			
Ch'church*				Madrid	c	23	73	Rio de Jan	s	26	79	Zurich	f	11	52

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

هكذا من الأصل